An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage

14th April 2022

Dr. Liam Thornton, Associate Professor,
School of Law,

University College Dublin.

Re: FOI request No: FOI-0106-2022

Dear Dr. Thornton,

I refer to your request dated 25/02/2022 made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for records held by this FOI Body:

Records of the White Paper Implementation Working Group meetings in relation to the White Paper on Ending Direct Provision attended by the Dept. of Housing between 01/03/2021 and 23/02/2022.
This can be restricted to:

- *Agendas of meetings*
- *Papers/Memos attached to these meetings or completed after the meetings;*
- *Minutes of these meetings.*

I, Ann Gill have now made a final decision to part grant your request on the 14th April 2022.

The purpose of this letter is to explain that decision. This explanation has the following parts:

1. a schedule of all of the records covered by your request;
2. an explanation of the relevant findings concerning the records to which access is denied, and
3. a statement of how you can appeal this decision should you wish to do so.

This letter addresses each of these three parts in turn.

1. Schedule of records
A schedule is enclosed with this letter; it shows the documents that this body considers relevant to your request. It describes each document and refers to the sections of the FOI Act which apply to prevent release. It also gives you a summary and overview of the decision as a whole.

2. Findings, particulars and reasons for decisions to deny access
The sections of the Act which can apply to deny access to documents are known as its exemption provisions.

I have identified 78 records which relate to your request. I have decided you should be granted access to 54 of these records with some redactions under Section 37 (1) as detailed below.

Section 29(1) – Deliberations of FOI bodies

Under section 29(1) a head may refuse to grant an FOI request -

(a) if the record concerned contains matter relating to the deliberative processes of an FOI body (including opinions, advice, recommendations, and the results of consultations, considered by the body, the head of the body, or a member of the body or of the staff of the body for the purpose of those processes), and

(b) the granting of the request would, in the opinion of the head, be contrary to the public interest,

and, without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (b), the head shall, in determining whether to grant or refuse to grant the request, consider whether the grant thereof would be contrary to the public interest by reason of the fact that the requester concerned would thereby become aware of a significant decision that the body proposes to make.

The information withheld under this exemption relates to matters currently under deliberation by the Department. It is my view that the release of this information at this stage in the process would be contrary to the public interest. Premature release of records would impair the integrity and viability of the decision making process to a significant or substantial degree. I am satisfied that the release would be harmful to the process and it is therefore my view that this information should not be released.

Section 37 (1) Personal Information

Subject to this section, a head shall refuse to grant an FOI request if, in the opinion of the head, access to the record would involve the disclosure of personal information.

Names, Email addresses and contact phone numbers have been redacted from some of the records released.

In addition, some of these records on the schedule are publically available but are attached for your convenience.

3. Rights of appeal
In the event that you are unhappy with this decision you may appeal it. In the event that you need to make such an appeal, you can do so by writing to the Freedom of Information Unit, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Newtown Road, Wexford, Y35

AP90 or by sending an e-mail to FOI@housing.gov.ie. Your correspondence should include a fee of €30 (€10 fee for medical card holders) for processing the appeal. Payment can be made by way of personal cheque, made payable to the Department of the Housing, Local Government and Heritage, quoting FOI-0106-2022 or alternatively by depositing the relevant amount to the Department of the Housing, Local Government and Heritage's account using the details provided in the table below.

Please ensure you quote the FOI request number (FOI-0106-2022) when making any such EFT payment. You should forward a copy of your transfer receipt to the FOI Unit at FOI@housing.gov.ie quoting the above reference number also.

Bank	***Danske Bank***
Address	***Irish State Building,*** ***3rd Floor International House,*** ***3 Harbourmaster Place,*** ***IFSC,*** ***Dublin 1***
Account number	*80001341*
Sort code	*951599*
BIC	*DABAIE2D*
IBAN	*IE30DABA95159980001341*

You should make your appeal within 4 weeks from the date of this notification, where a day is defined as a working day excluding, the weekend and public holidays. However, the making of a late appeal may be permitted in appropriate circumstances. The appeal will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of the staff of this body.

Please note the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage has a policy of posting a summary of all non-personal FOI requests to our website.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the above, please contact me by telephone on 01 8882137 or 087 7214048.

Yours sincerely,

Ann Gill (Housing)

Assistant Principal Officer

Item	Number Sequence	Attached
Email: WP Programme Board Agenda and meeting link for 29 July 2021	1	Y
Agenda 29 July 2021	1	Y
Programme Board Members List to circulate 29 July 2021	1	Y
Email: Documents to circulate for the First Meeting of the Programme Board	2	Y
Programme Board TORS	2	Y
Email regarding CCMA membership of PB- Paula Q and Paul B.	3	Y
Email Link For the First Meeting of the Programme Board	4	Y
PB Terms of reference	4	Y
Email: Documents to circulate for the First Meeting of the Programme Board	5	Y
Email: Presentations from Programme Board meeting 29th July	6	Y
Presentation: White Paper on Ending Direct Provision	6	Y
Presentation: The Housing Agency role and progress to date	6	Y
Presentation: IPSS Transition Team Progress to Date	6	Y
Minutes 29 July 2021	7	Y
Email: IPSS Programme Board Draft Minutes and Implementation Plan	7	Y
Email: RE: Documents to circulate for the First Meeting of the Programme Board - Paula to Paul re interdepartmental group and Local Authority/CCMA group	8	Y
Email: Feedback on Implementation Plan Reminder	9	Y
Email from Enda re extension on feedback	10	Y
Reply to Enda	11	Y
Email from Rose re extenension on feedback	12	Y
Email: IPSS Programme Board meeting invite (23 Sep)	13	Y
Governance Structure final	13	Y
Agenda 23 Sep 2021	13	Y
Minutes 29 July 2021	13	Y
PB Terms of reference	13	Y
Email: Implementation Plan Copy	14	Y
Email: NDP allocation	15	Y
Email: Ownership Options Sub-Group First Meeting	16	Y
Email: Ownership Options Sub-Group First Meeting - re Paul's availability	17	Y
Email: Documents for 21 October PB Meeting	18	Y
Agenda 21 Oct 2021	18	Y
Project Inititation Document	18	Y
Draft minutes 23 Sep 2021	18	Y
Governance Model PBIPSS	18	Y
Email: Material for Ownership Sub-Group	19	Y
FW: NDP Allocation - Sec Gen reply to Nick Henderson	20	Y

Email: Link to Programme Board Meeting (21 October)	21	Y
Email: Webex meeting invitation: Meeting of the Programme Board to oversee the transition to the new International Protection Support Service	22	Y
Email: Documents available on FileCloud	23	Y
Creating a FileCloud Account Programme Board	24	Y
meighanb has shared files with you	25	Y
Email: Documents for information	26	Y
CCMA allocation	26	Y
PB Terms of reference	26	Y
Minutes 29 July 2021	26	Y
Email: Finalised Terms of Reference	27	Y
PB Terms of reference	27	Y
Email: 18 Nov meeting will be online	28	Y
Email: Programme Board Documents	29	Y
Agenda 18 Nov 2021	29	Y
Minutes 21 Oct 2021	29	Y
Email: Ownership Sub-Group Draft Report	30	Y
Email: RE: Ownership Sub-Group Draft Report - Reminder for feedback	31	Y
Ownership subgroup Agenda 01 Nov 2021	32	Y
Agenda ownership subgroup 11th Nov 2021	33	Y

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Programme Board to oversee transition to new International Protection Support Service

29 JULY 2021 10:00 to 12:00
Agenda

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1. Introduction, the Minister

2. Introductions from Programme Board members and the Terms of Reference

3. Presentation on content of the White Paper

4. Presentations from the Housing Agency and the International Protection Support Service (IPSS) Transition Team on progress to date since publication of the White Paper

5. Working arrangements for the Programme Board

6. Questions

7. A.O.B

8. Date of the next meeting 9 September 2021 (tbc)

We look forward to seeing you all next Thursday. The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth use the Webex platform for its online meetings, you can either download the Webex app or use the browser.

Edwina Steele
Assistant Principal Officer
International Protection Accommodation Policy, Disability Policy & Anti-Racism Policy

Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth
An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige

Block 1 - Floor 3, Miesian Plaza, 50-58 Baggot Street Lower, Dublin 2, D02 XW14. Freepost F5055
Bloc 1 - Urlár 3, 50-58 Sráid Bhagóig Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath 2, D02 XW14.

T+

www.gov.ie/dcya

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday 22 July 2021 12:13
To: [redacted]

[redacted]gov.ie>
Subject: WP Programme Board Agenda and meeting link for 29 July 2021

Dear All,

Thank you for agreeing to sit on the Programme Board to oversee the transition to the new International Protection Support Service (IPPS) as outlined in *A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a new International Protection Support Service*.

Please find attached the Agenda and below the meeting link for the inaugural meeting: **29 July 2021 10.00 to 12.00.**

We have also attached a the Programme Board membership with a few lines by way of a brief introduction from each of you. There will be an opportunity for proper introductions next Thursday. As you will see, the Minister will open the meeting and welcome you all.

We have put in the link to the White Paper (above), and this provides all the background context needed for those of you who are new to this area. In particular, chapters 3 and 12 provide the background to the reform of International Protection. We will circulate the initial implementation plan to you ahead of the meeting, and re-circulate the draft ToR.

My team and I will be happy to assist you and talk to you if you have any further queries or concerns ahead of next Thursday's meeting. My mobile [redacted] and my email is [redacted] my colleague's email is [redacted] will provide the Secretariat to the Programme Board.

Kind regards,

Edwina

Thursday, July 29, 2021
10:00 AM | (UTC+01:00) Dublin, Edinburgh, Lisbon, London | 2 hrs

[redacted]

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Programme Board to oversee transition to new International Protection Support Service
Members as of 29 July 2021

Dr Fergal Lynch (Chair)
Fergal Lynch is Secretary General of the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth. The Department continues to have wide responsibility for policy, legislation and services in respect of children and young people. In addition, a number of new functions have transferred to the Department, including responsibility for policy, legislation and services relating to international protection, disability, integration and equality.

Carol Baxter
Carol Baxter is an Assistant Secretary General in the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth with responsibility for policy, legislation and services in the areas of international protection, integration and equality.

Paul Benson
Paul Benson is a Principal Officer in the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, since 2018, managing Private House Grants, Local Authority Stock Improvement Programmes, Traveller Accommodation and International Protection. Prior to taking up a position with the Department, Paul worked at a senior level in the local authority sector for 20 years with huge experience across all of its functional areas and in particular in the area of Housing. He also has practical experience of the resettlement and integration of refugees having served on one of the local interagency resettlement committees as part of the Irish Refugee Protection Programme.

David Delaney
David Delaney is a Director and Deputy Head of Immigration Service Delivery in the Department of Justice. The purpose of the Immigration Service Delivery function is to manage the delivery of efficient, robust and customer-centric frontline immigration services for the Department and the State, whilst maintaining an ongoing focus on the identification of opportunities for continuous improvement of immigration services to customers. The function enables staff to focus on enhancing outputs and outcomes for customers, while ongoing collaboration with other functions ensures that service design and customer experience improvements are at the heart of immigration services

Patricia Doherty
Patricia Doherty has extensive experience in health and social care service delivery and has held a series of senior management and board roles. She is a former CEO of St. Michael's House (SMH) one of Ireland's largest voluntary organisations for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. From 2017 to 2021 she worked with the Voluntary Healthcare Forum (VHF), supporting the Chairpersons and Board members of Ireland's voluntary hospitals in their collective leadership contribution to health policy, strategy, reform, funding and governance. She is a Board member of both Tusla, and

the Coolmine Therapeutic Community. She previously served as a board member of the National Federation of Voluntary Service Providers. Patricia has substantial experience in healthcare leadership and management, strategic planning and implementation, corporate and clinical governance, risk management and regulation and building a high performing professional workforce.

Nick Henderson
Nick Henderson is CEO of the Irish Refugee Council, since 2016, and is responsible for operational management, fundraising, advocacy and policy development. Prior to this, Nick managed 'Integrity at Work', promoting supportive working environments for whistleblowers. Nick has also managed Amnesty International Ireland's work on economic, social and cultural rights, was Legal Officer with the IRC Independent Law Centre from 2011-2014, and also worked with the Migrant Rights Centre Ireland on the criminalisation of forced labour. Nick was a legal representative with the Refugee Legal Centre in London from 2004-2010.

Rosemary Kunene
Rosemary Kunene is a community activist and a social entrepreneur. She has been supporting and working with people from refugee and international protection background since 2015. She is also involved in a number of social integration initiatives in Co. Laois. She founded Dignity Partnership to empower people who have lived or are living in Direct Provision centres, and Rosmary sits on a number of Boards

Brendan Lenihan
Brendan Lenihan Managing Director since 2016 of Navigo Consulting, a specialist advisory firm in strategy, business planning and governance, serving private and public sector clients in Ireland and the UK by delivering advisory work on significant financial investments and business plans as well on improving board, organisational and financial effectiveness. Brendan is a former President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland and has over 25 years of experience in the profession. Brendan is a non-executive Director of Bus Eireann and has held roles as an external member of the Audit & Risk Committees of the CIE Group and the Irish Dental Council. In addition to his professional roles, Brendan also has experience of the charitable sector, particularly in the areas of mental health and homelessness.

John O'Connor
John O'Connor is CEO of the Housing Agency, since 2012, and previous to that CEO of Affordable Homes Partnership and Executive Manager in Dublin City Council. John has over 25 years' experience in housing and project delivery - social & affordable. He is a structural engineer.

Enda O'Neill
Enda O'Neill is Head of Office with UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency in Ireland, since 2015. UNHCR provides policy and programmatic support and advice to government officials working on resettlement, asylum and related issues. UNHCR also works with the asylum determining bodies to

provide training, conduct quality reviews and promote good practice in international protection determination. Enda is a qualified Barrister from the Kings Inns and holds an LLM in European Law from Kings College, London. He practiced for five years in the Irish courts in the areas of criminal law, judicial review and immigration and asylum law.

Jim Walsh

Jim Walsh is a Principal Officer in the Department of Health, in charge of the Drugs Policy and Social Inclusion Unit. His remit includes the provision of health care services for applicants for international protection. He is responsible for coordinating the implementation of the national drugs strategy. Jim formerly worked in as head of policy in the Combat Poverty Agency.

Tanya Ward

Tanya Ward is Chief Executive of the Children's Rights Alliance since 2011. She formerly worked with the Irish Council for Civil Liberties for eight years where she was Deputy Director. She is currently Chair of the National Advisory Council for Children and Young People

Thursday, July 29, 2021

10:00 AM | (UTC+01:00) Dublin, Edinburgh, Lisbon, London | 2 hrs

Join meeting

More ways to join:

Join from the meeting link

https://irlgov.webex.com/irlgov/j.php?MTID=m275044d3005bf2e069cf14dfd5a4ff70

Join by meeting number

Meeting number (access code): 175 699 2017

Meeting password: 9udEXgXjr53

Fro[redacted]
Sent: Tuesday 27 July 2021 12:06
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Documents to circulate for the First Meeting of the Programme Board

Dear Programme Board members,

Ahead of the Board's first meeting on **29 July** from **10.00 to 12.00**, Please find attached a copy of the Board's Terms of Reference, as well as a copy of the Implementation Plan that has been put together by the Transition Team.

As the assessment of what needs to be done is still underway, the Transition Team plans to refine and expand the actions and deliverables set out in the plan over the next weeks and to present a revised version of the draft implementation plan to the Programme Board in September. It is anticipated that timelines will also change as the Transition Team develops a clearer understanding of all of the steps involved in designing and delivering the new model.

Kind Regards,
Brendan Meighan

International Protection Accommodation Policy, Disability Policy & Anti-Racism Policy

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Cúirt Montague, 7-11 Sráid Montague, Baile Átha Cliath 2 D02 FT96
Montague Court, 7-11 Montague Street, Dublin 2 D02 FT96

International Protection Support Service

Programme Board Terms of Reference

Advice

1. Provide guidance and expertise on developing the new model of accommodation and supports for international protection applicants, and on specific aspects of implementing that model, to the DCEDIY Transition Team and to Departments and Agencies with responsibility for implementing the transition to the new model;
2. Contribute to the development of implementation plans for the transition to the new model of accommodation and supports for international protection applicants.

Information Exchange

3. Act as an information sharing mechanism among Departments and Agencies with responsibility for implementing the transition to the new model of accommodation and supports for international protection applicants, including linking the Transition Team with key relationships, experts and supports;
4. Meet annually with representatives of inter-agency working groups to facilitate the exchange of good practice and to identify ways in which coordination can be improved at local level.
5. Develop and implement a communications/transparency strategy with the Department for all communications relating to the work of the board and the outside world.

Monitoring

6. Monitor the transition to the new model (to enable this monitoring, information will be supplied to the Board by Departments and Agencies with responsibility for implementing the transition, including the Local Authority Inter-Agency Working Groups that will co-ordinate the delivery of the programme at local level);
7. Agree the progress and performance indicators against which it will monitor the transition to the new model;
8. Provide twice-yearly monitoring reports to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, these reports to be published on the DCEDIY website.

DRAFT

www.tithiocht.gov.ie
www.housing.gov.ie

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday 27 July 2021 14:32
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Documents to circulate for [redacted] irst Meeting of the Programme Board

Hi Paul
We hadn't spoken further about a rep from the CCMA. Carol is on leave till Thursday and I can speak to her then about it.
We are trying not to make the programme board too big as it could become too unwieldly and the output might not be what we want but I can see where you are coming from regarding the CCMA.
If it's not possible do you think could they live with yourself being their representative?

Kind Regards
Paula

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday 27 July 2021 14:13
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Documents to circulate for the First Meeting of the Programme Board

Paula,

I was just wondering if any consideration had been given to having a CCMA representative on the Programme Board. I'm not 100% sure myself but my instinct and knowledge of how things work in the LA system tells me there probably should be given integration is such a key part of the new policy. Having said that there are probably lots of other organisations you could make a case to have represented.

Regards
Paul

Paul Benson, P.O.
Housing Affordability, Inclusion and Homelessness Division

An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Oifigí an Rialtais, Béal an Átha, Co Mhaigh Eo. F26 E8N6
Government Offices, Ballina, Co Mayo, F26 E8N6

www.tithiocht.gov.ie
www.housing.gov.ie

From: Brendan Meighan (DCEDIY) [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday 27 July 2021 12:06
To: [redacted]

Subject: Documents to circulate for the First Meeting of the Programme Board

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Kind Regards,
Brendan Meighan

International Protection Accommodation Policy, Disability Policy & Anti-Racism Policy

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Cúirt Montague, 7-11 Sráid Montague, Baile Átha Cliath 2 D02 FT96
Montague Court, 7-11 Montague Street, Dublin 2 D02 FT96

Thursday, July 29, 2021
10:00 AM | (UTC+01:00) Dublin, Edinburgh, Lisbon, London | 2 hrs

Join meeting

More ways to join:

Join from the meeting link
https://irlgov.webex.com/irlgov/j.php?MTID=m275044d300Sbf2e069cf14dfd5a4ff70

Join by meeting number
Meeting number (access code): 175 699 2017
Meeting password: 9udEXgXjr53

T +353 (0)1 647 3093

W www.gov.ie/dcediy

From: C
Sent: Thursday 29 July 2021 10:16
To:
Subject: Link For the First Meeting of the Programme Board

Dear All,

Please see below, two ways to join the meeting.
The link below the green 'Join meeting' Button should work if you put it into your browser.

Thursday, July 29, 2021
10:00 AM | (UTC+01:00) Dublin, Edinburgh, Lisbon, London | 2 hrs

Join meeting

More ways to join:

Join from the meeting link

https://irlgov.webex.com/irlgov/j.php?MTID=mc4858e21e4b5b8f3cd7fe75ffd085c09

Kind Regards,
Ciara O'Connor
——

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Cúirt Montague, 7-11 Sráid Montague, Baile Átha Cliath 2 D02 FT96
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International Protection Support Service

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4. Meet annually with representatives of inter-agency working groups to facilitate the exchange of good practice and to identify ways in which coordination can be improved at local level.
5. Develop and implement a communications/transparency strategy with the Department for all communications relating to the work of the board and the outside world.

Monitoring

6. Monitor the transition to the new model (to enable this monitoring, information will be supplied to the Board by Departments and Agencies with responsibility for implementing the transition, including the Local Authority Inter-Agency Working Groups that will co-ordinate the delivery of the programme at local level);
7. Agree the progress and performance indicators against which it will monitor the transition to the new model;
8. Provide twice-yearly monitoring reports to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, these reports to be published on the DCEDIY website.

DRAFT

Kind Regards,
Brendan Meighan

International Protection Accommodation Policy, Disability Policy & Anti-Racism Policy

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

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Join from the meeting link

https://irlgov.webex.com/irlgov/j.php?MTID=m275044d3005bf2e069cf14dfd5a4ff70

Join by meeting number

Meeting number (access code): 175 699 2017

Meeting password: 9udEXgXjr53

Fro
Sent: Thursday 29 July 2021 10:26
To

Subject: RE: Documents to circulate for the First Meeting of the Programme Board

Dear All,

In case anyone is having trouble accessing the meeting, please see the link to the meeting below.

https://irlgov.webex.com/irlgov/j.php?MTID=mb66d78617953a06f7e198370f413b36c

Kind Regards,
Brendan

From:
Sent: Tuesday 27 July 2021 12:06
To
Cc:

Subject: Documents to circulate for the First Meeting of the Programme Board

Dear Programme Board members,

Ahead of the Board's first meeting on **29 July** from **10.00 to 12.00**, Please find attached a copy of the Board's Terms of Reference, as well as a copy of the Implementation Plan that has been put together by the Transition Team.

As the assessment of what needs to be done is still underway, the Transition Team plans to refine and expand the actions and deliverables set out in the plan over the next weeks and to present a revised version of the draft implementation plan to the Programme Board in September. It is anticipated that timelines will also change as the Transition Team develops a clearer understanding of all of the steps involved in designing and delivering the new model.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday 29 July 2021 16:29
[redacted]
Cc: [redacted]

Subject: Presentations from Programme Board meeting 29th July

Dear Programme Board Members,

Please see attached the presentations from this morning's meeting.

Kind Regards,
Ciara O'Connor
——

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Cúirt Montague, 7-11 Sráid Montague, Baile Átha Cliath 2 D02 FT96
Montague Court, 7-11 Montague Street, Dublin 2 D02 FT96
——
T +353 (0)1 647 3093

E [redacted] **W** www.gov.ie/dcediy

An Ghníomhaireacht Tithíochta
The Housing Agency

Implementing the End to Direct Provision

The Housing Agency role and progress to date

Claire Feeney

29th July 2021

The Housing Agency

- Role of The Housing Agency
  - Use our knowledge and expertise to support, advice and inform all aspects of housing policy and delivery with our range of stakeholders.

- Providing direct assistance on housing matter to DCEDIY as required.

Memorandum of Understanding and Workplan

- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed
- Workplan will be updated in line with the MOU in the coming days
- Initial resources have been deployed by the Agency to the project and this will be increased once agreement is reached on the Acquisition Policy and a few other key areas
- Timelines have been set for a number actions to the end of 2021 and into 2022

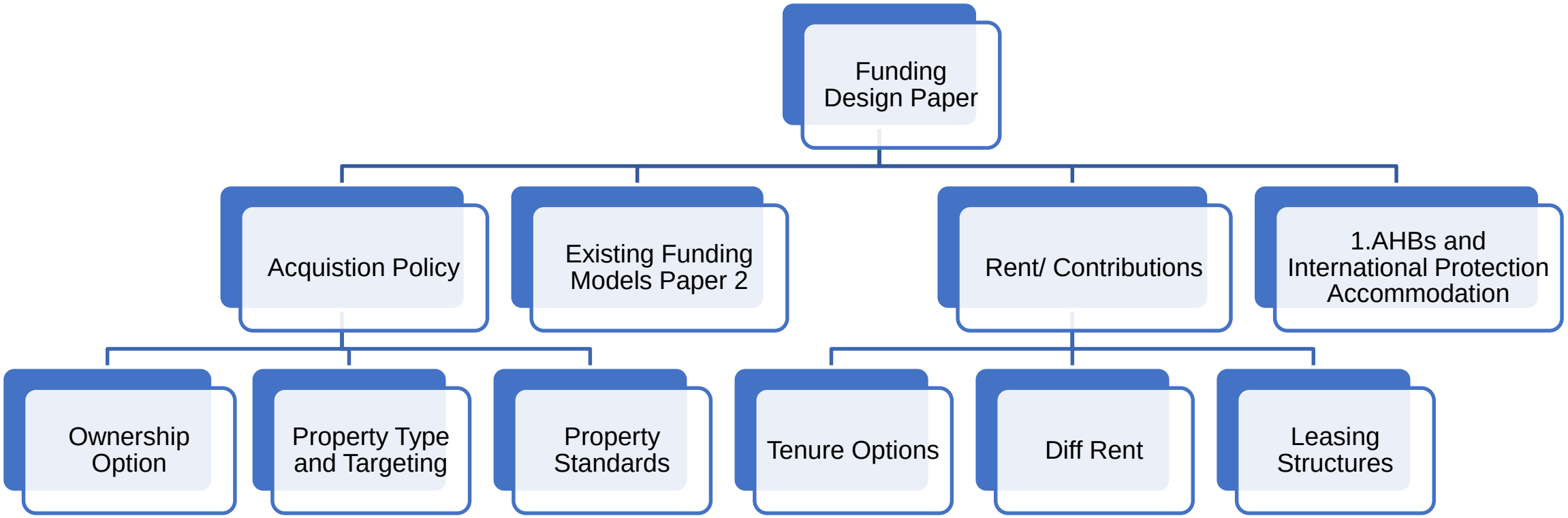
Work to date

- Supporting DCEDIY in a number of areas
- Advice papers
  - Paper 1 on the existing Funding Schemes
  - Draft of Acquisition Process Paper
- Initial engagement with AHB stakeholders to gauge interest and capacity

Current Advice Papers

1. Acquisition Policy
2. AHBs and International Protection Accommodation
3. Differential Rents Scheme
4. Existing Social Housing Funding Models Paper 2
5. Funding Scheme Design and Implementation
6. Housing Standards for each housing type
7. Ownership options for properties
8. Property Type and Targeting Parameters
9. Rent/Contributions Scheme
10. Social leasing structures
11. Tenure Options and Considerations

Paper Relationships



Considerations and Dependencies

- Local Authority Distribution key
- AHB sector involvement in accommodation provision
- Integration into communities
- Transition through accommodation
- Administration of funding schemes

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

IPSS Transition Team Progress to Date

Paula Quinn
Paula.Quinn@equality.gov.ie
0858702555
29th July 2021

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Transition Team Resources

- Sanction received for a project team of up to 15 staff with a mix of grades and skillsets including finance, procurement, integration and accommodation delivery.

- Sanction being sought from DPER for a Director post to head up the project.

- Aim to have all team members recruited by quarter four 2021.

Accommodation Model

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

- **Sourcing Accommodation**: the Local Authorities have developed an allocation key which will serve as a guide as to how many applicants for International Protection will be accommodated in each Local Authority area for Phase 2 accommodation. The allocation key is based on population density.

- **Advice Papers:** the Housing Agency are currently working on a number of advice papers which will help put in place the building blocks for the new accommodation model. The purpose of the papers is to enable DECDIY to design a policy for acquiring properties including an ownership model and a funding scheme model which will support Approved Housing Bodies in providing Phase 2 accommodation.

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Integration Model

- **Orientation Programme:** developing a policy implementation paper on orientation programmes, including a review of international best practice and the current programmes delivered in Balsekin when asylum seekers first enter IPAS accommodation and what is delivered under the IRPP model.

- **Interagency Working Group Model:** developing a policy implementation paper which will examine how we can expand the current model of inter-agency working groups under the Irish Refugee Protection Programme (IRPP), to include asylum seekers.

- **Resettlement and Intercultural Workers:** developing a policy implementation paper which will examine how we can expand the current model of resettlement workers and intercultural workers appointed under the IRPP to include asylum seekers.

Support Services

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

International Protection Payment: developing a policy implementation paper for an international protection support payment that applicants will receive in Phase Two, including the means testing that will apply where an applicant is in employment. Engagement has been started with the Department of Social Protection who will be our implementation partners for the payment.

Wrap around Services: developing a policy implementation document to devise a commissioning model for the services. Currently initiating engagement with key stakeholders. First meeting held with the HSE and Department of Health and discussions have begun on the very significant role the HSE will play.

Transition Team Supports

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Communications: Designing a mini-tender to procure assistance from an OGP communications framework, to support with the design and role out of a public awareness campaign and a community engagement strategy.

Project Service Support: Designing a mini-tender to procure assistance from an OGP project services framework to support in the design and implementation of the project structures.

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Advice/Recommendations Sought at the Next Programme Board

- Ownership model(s) that will be employed to acquire sites and properties.
- Funding models that will be employed for Approved Housing Bodies.
- Detailed consideration of the implementation plan
- Consideration of the implementation options as set out in the implementation plan.

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais,
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality,
Disability, Integration and Youth

A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a New International Protection Support Service

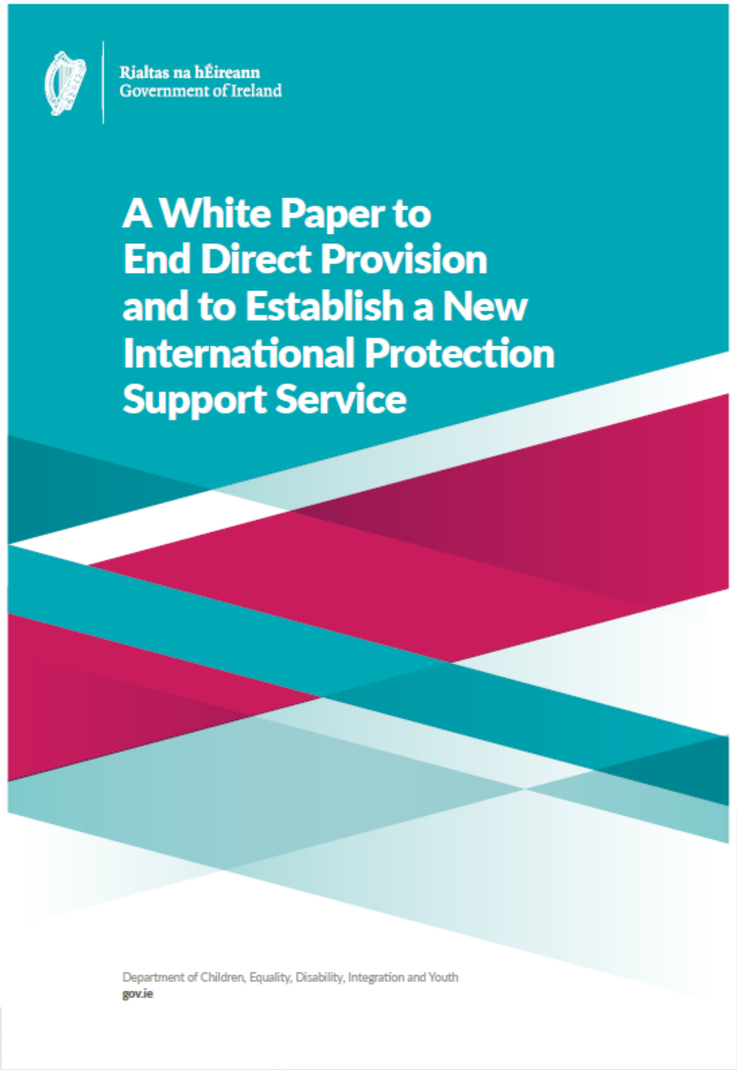
Presentation to the inaugural meeting of the Programme Board to oversee the transition to the new International Protection Support Service

Edwina Steele
International Protection Accommodation Policy & Anti-Racism Policy

29 July 2021

Ending Direct Provision

- Policy Objectives
- Key elements of new policy
  - Accommodation
  - Other Supports and Services
  - Integration
- Process



Policy Objectives

- End Direct Provision
- Replace it with a new system based on a not-for-profit approach
- A system in which human rights are protected and promoted
  - autonomy, privacy and family life are respected and fostered
  - services are provided in a professional, sensitive and culturally competent way
- Integration from day one

Key Elements of New Policy

- New approach to accommodation
  - an end to long-term congregated settings
  - independent living in the community

- New approach to supports
  - income support to enable independent living in the community

- Integration focus
  - integration from day one
  - nationwide network of integration workers

Accommodation (i)

- Phase One – Reception and Integration Centres
  - six new purpose built centres
  - own-room or own-door accommodation
  - maximum stay of four months
  - tailored support programme based on individual needs assessment
  - integration programme

- Phase Two – Accommodation in the Community
  - own-door (families) or own-room (single people)
  - locations determined by national distribution key
  - managed by not-for-profit organisations on behalf of the State
  - differential rent payable (means tested)
  - specific supports for vulnerable people

Accommodation (ii)

Strand One:
Accommodation provided by Approved Housing Bodies or NGOs (families and vulnerable people)

Strand Two:
Urban renewal schemes (particularly focused on single people)

Strand Three:
Hosting in the community, including rent a room schemes (particularly focused on single people)

Strand Four:
Private tenancies (particularly focused on families)

Other Supports and Services

- Living Expenses
  - Phase One – Daily Expenses Allowance
  - Phase Two – International Protection Payments
- Education
  - Mainstream access throughout
  - Managed transition from Phase One to Phase Two
- Healthcare
  - Healthcare needs assessment in Phase One
  - Managed transition from Phase One to Phase Two
  - Medical card entitlement
- Social Supports
  - Tailored supports based on ongoing assessment of vulnerability

Integration

- Phase One Integration Programme
  - Intensive English language tuition
  - Living in Ireland - orientation programme
  - Integration case-workers based in Reception and Integration Centres
- Labour Market Integration
  - Right to work after six months
  - Access to employment supports
- Ongoing integration supports
  - Local integration workers
  - Funding for local integration initiatives
  - Additional support for vulnerable people

Transition

- Aim to complete transition to the new policy by end 2024
- International Protection Support Service Transition Team appointed in DCEDIY, April 2021
- Programme Board established, July 2021 to oversee progress
- Closure of existing DP Centres to begin in 2022

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Thank you

Questions….

Edwina Steele

From: Brendan Meighan (DCEDIY
Sent: Wednesday 11 August 2021 09:39

[redacted]

Subject: IPSS Programme Board Draft Minutes and Implementation Plan

Dear Programme Board members,

Please find attached the draft Minutes of the IPSS Programme Board's inaugural meeting of 29 July 2021. The next meeting of the Programme Board will be on Thursday 23 September, 10am to 12pm.

In advance of this meeting, please see the notes below from the Secretariat:

- As agreed, in preparation for the next meeting, could the Board please provide their feedback on the draft High-Level Implementation Plan and the implementation options (attached here for your convenience) and return it to [redacted] and [redacted] by **Wednesday 1 September**.
- We will collate the information received and bring it to the Board for the meeting in September where both the Plan and the options will be discussed.
- If you have any question or needs to clarify anything in the Plan you can contact Paula Quinn, Head of the IPSS Transition Team directly: [redacted]
- We will circulate two further papers a week in advance of the meeting in September:
    1. Ownership options for the properties that will be built or acquired
    2. Possible funding scheme model(s) for the Approved Housing Bodies.
- The papers will be discussed at the next meeting and we will be looking for their advice/ recommendations on the options presented.

Kind Regards,
Brendan Meighan

International Protection Accommodation Policy, Disability Policy & Anti-Racism Policy

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Cúirt Montague, 7-11 Sráid Montague, Baile Átha Cliath 2 D02 FT96
Montague Court, 7-11 Montague Street, Dublin 2 D02 FT96

Programme Board – Meeting Details	
Date:	29 July 2021
Time:	10:00am
Location:	Video Conference
In Attendance:	Fergal Lynch (Chair), Carol Baxter, Paul Benson, Patricia Doherty, Nick Henderson, Rosemary Kunene, Brendan Lenihan, John O'Connor, Enda O'Neill, Jim Walsh, Tanya Ward, Minister Roderic O'Gorman, Aisling Cusack, Claire Feeney, Paula Quinn, Eoin Wilson Secretariat: Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.
Apologies:	

Ref	Agenda Item	Key Decision / Discussion Points	Action Owner
1.	**Introduction from the Minister**	• The Minister welcomed participants and thanked them for their willingness to sit on the Programme Board.	
2.	**Introductions from Programme Board members and the Terms of Reference**	• Programme Board members introduced themselves and provided a brief summary of their experience to date. • It was agreed that the Terms of Reference should state that the work of the Programme Board will reflect the implementation of *A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a New International Protection Support Service*; and include reference to governance structures and a Risk Committee. • It was agreed to wait until after 23 September meeting, to share a final version of the implementation plan with the 17 NGOs who had nominated the former resident and two NGO board members. • It was clarified that a Board member recently joining the Irish Refugee Council did not constitute a conflict of interest? • It was agreed that there should be regular briefings and updates shared between the Programme Board and the Programme Board established by the Department of Justice. • It was agreed that there should be further discussion of the Terms of Reference at the Board's next meeting.	**Secretariat & Committee**
3.	**Presentation on the content of the White Paper**	• The Board received a brief presentation on the content of *A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a New International Protection Support Service* and the policy behind it.	

Ref	Agenda Item	Key Decision / Discussion Points	Action Owner
4.	**Presentations from the Housing Agency and the International Protection Support Service (IPSS) Transition Team on progress to date since the publication of White Paper**	• The Head of the IPSS Transition Team briefed the Board on progress to date since the publication of the White Paper, including the initial draft of the High-Level Implementation Plan as circulated to the Board • It was noted that, ahead of the Board's next meeting, papers will be provided to Programme Board members on the following topics: ○ Potential ownership models for the accommodation sites used under the new system; ○ Potential funding models for Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs); ○ Feedback received from the Board on the initial draft of the High-Level Implementation Plan; ○ A consideration of the three implementation options contained in the implementation plan. • The Housing Agency presented to the Board the Housing Agency's progress to date as DCEDIY's implementation partners on accommodation. • It was noted that the Housing Agency is working on 11 advice papers for the Programme Board and that two of these are currently being progressed: ○ An advice paper on existing funding schemes for AHBs; ○ An advice paper setting out the draft process and procedure on sourcing accommodation. • The Chair thanked the presenters and it was agreed that the Secretariat would share the presentations with the Programme Board members.	**IPSS Transition Team and Secretariat**
6.	**Questions**	• It was agreed that a paper outlining the overall governance architecture for the implementation of the White Paper would be drawn up and discussed at the next meeting. • It was agreed that the implementation plan would be examined in more detail at the next meeting of the Programme Board, and Board members would provide feedback to the Secretariat by 1 September 2021.	**IPSS Transition Team and Secretariat**

Ref	Agenda Item	Key Decision / Discussion Points	Action Owner
		• It was agreed that the pending policy implementation paper on International Protection payments would include a review of payments for Phase One as well as Phase Two. • It was noted that the Secretariat will engage directly with Programme Board members on the supports that will be offered to children and young people as part of the new model. • It was agreed that a Project Initiation Document (PID) will be drawn up and circulated for the next meeting, which will outline the goals of the project and how they can be measured. • It was noted that the values and principles that underpin the new system are very important and should be provided in a separate document to all Board members. • The importance attached by the Government to the implementation of the White Paper recommendations was emphasised.	
5.	**Working Arrangements for the Programme Board**	• It was agreed that papers will be circulated to Board members at least a week in advance of a meeting. • It was agreed that documents should be circulated in Microsoft Word format. • It was also agreed that the slides for scheduled presentations would be shared in advance of the meeting. • It was agreed that the Secretariat would find out if DCEDIY could provide one central web portal where relevant papers and documents would be available for all Board members to access.	**Secretariat and Programme Board**
7.	**AOB and date for next meeting**	• The next meeting of the Programme Board is Thursday 23 September 2021.	**Secretariat**

Orla Hayes (Housing)

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday 12 August 2021 09:14
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Documents to circulate for the First Meeting of the Programme Board

Hi Paul
As part of the governance model and to ensure all stakeholders including the Local Authorities are kept on board we are thinking of pulling together two other groups along with the programme board. An interdepartmental group of departments that are not on the PB but have a role to play e.g. DSP and also an working group for the implementation of the Interagency Working Group model and this would include the Local Authorities/CCMA. Once we have the design of the interagency working group and the roles of the resettlement and intercultural workers completed (in collaboration with the CCMA) we will pull together the group.
Hopefully this model ensures all stakeholders are fully engaged and clear on their role and delivery.

Kind Regards
Paula

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday 30 July 202[redacted]
To [redacted]
Subject: RE: Documents to circulate for the First Meeting of the Programme Board

Paula,

Noted and I understand not wanting it to get too big.

I will represent DHLGH and that would give some oversight/representative view of the LA sector but representing the CMMA and all 31 LAs who are entirely independent of the Dept in the exercise of their functions would be a stretch. The reason for suggesting their involvement is to ensure that updates on IP work gets reported at the monthly plenary meetings of the CMMA which the 31 LA Chief Executives attend. That happens currently with the IRPP process and I think it would be wise to ensure that it also happens with IP. I know there are regular meetings currently and Eugene is reporting back to the CCMA on the issues but I can see some risk in it being less of a priority issue for discussion at plenary meetings of the CCMA once the distribution key and resources are agreed as there are no obvious targets or kpi's to hold LAs to account on the integration work, unlike the IRPP process where there are clear accommodation targets to meet and no CE wants to see their LA missing taregts.

Maybe something needs to be done in the co-ordination of services/integration work piece around kpi's which covers both IP and IRPP which would ensure LAs keep progress and performance in this area high on their agenda. Worth a thought.

Regards
Paul

Paul Benson, P.O.
Housing Affordability, Inclusion and Homelessness Division

An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Oifigí an Rialtais, Béal an Átha, Co Mhaigh Eo. F26 E8N6
Government Offices, Ballina, Co Mayo, F26 E8N6

From:
Sent: Wednesday 25 August 2021 11:30

Subject: Feedback on Implementation Plan Reminder

Dear Programme Board members,

This email is a reminder that the deadline for feedback on the High Level Implementation Plan (attached here) is **Wednesday 1 September.** Feedback should be emailed to Brendan Meighan and all feedback that has been received by this deadline will be collated by the Secretariat and discussed at the next meeting of the Programme Board, which is scheduled for **Thursday 23 September**.

Kind Regards,
Brendan Meighan

International Protection Accommodation Policy, Disability Policy & Anti-Racism Policy

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Cúirt Montague, 7-11 Sráid Montague, Baile Átha Cliath 2 D02 FT96
Montague Court, 7-11 Montague Street, Dublin 2 D02 FT96

[redacted]

Subject: Re: Feedback on Implementation Plan Reminder

Dear Brendan,

Many thanks for the reminder. I would like to request a short extension if I may however. Unfortunately a combination of having taken some leave and the recent emergency in Afghanistan have prevented me giving it the time it needs to give it detailed consideration and draft a submission.

If I you were to receive submissions by first thing Monday 6 September would that be workable?

Kind regards,

Enda.

On 25 Aug 2021, at 11:30, Brendan Meighan (DCEDIY) [redacted] wrote:

Dear Programme Board members,

This email is a reminder that the deadline for feedback on the High Level Implementation Plan (attached here) is **Wednesday 1 September.** Feedback should be emailed to Brendan Meighar [redacted] and all feedback that has been received by this deadline will be collated by the Secretariat and discussed at the next meeting of the Programme Board, which is scheduled for **Thursday 23 September**.

Kind Regards,

Brendan Meighan

From: Brendan Meighan (DCEDIY
Sent: Thursday 26 August 2021 16:10
To: Enda O'neill
Cc:

Subject: RE: Feedback on Implementation Plan Reminder

Dear Enda,

That is absolutely workable and we appreciate you taking time out of your busy schedule to give the Implementation Plan your consideration.

Kind Regards,
Brendan

From: Dignity Partne
Sent: Thursday 26 August 2021 16:26
To: Brendan Meighan (DCEDIY
Cc: Enda O'neill

Subject: Re: Feedback on Implementation Plan Reminder

Dear Brendan,

Thanks for the reminder and the extension.

And many thanks to Enda for requesting it.

Kind regards,
Rosemary

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Ref: 210923(2)/Agenda PBIPSS

Programme Board to oversee the transition to the new International Protection Support Service

Agenda for 23 September 2021, 10:00 to 12:00

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1. Minutes of 29 July 2021

2. Programme Board's Terms of Reference

3. Discussion of the ownership model

4. Update on Sourcing Accommodation

5. Discussion of feedback on the Implementation Plan

6. Governance Document and Risk Committee

7. A.O.B.

8. Agree dates of meetings until the end of 2021 as follows:

   Thursday 21 October 2021, 10 to 12:00
   Thursday 18 November 2021, 10 to 12:00
   Thursday 16 December 2021, 10 to 12:00

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Ref: 210923(2)/PBIPSS/01 draft minutes 210729

Programme Board to oversee the transition to the new International Protection Support Service

Draft Minutes

Date:	29 July 2021
Time:	10:00am
Location:	Video Conference
In Attendance:	Fergal Lynch (Chair), Carol Baxter, Paul Benson, Patricia Doherty, Nick Henderson, Rosemary Kunene, Brendan Lenihan, John O'Connor, Enda O'Neill, Jim Walsh, Tanya Ward. Minister Roderic O'Gorman, Aisling Cusack, Claire Feeney, Paula Quinn, Eoin Wilson. Secretariat: Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.
Apologies:	

Ref	Key Decision / Discussion Points
1.	**Introduction from the Minister** • The Minister welcomed participants and thanked them for their willingness to sit on the Programme Board.
2.	**Introductions from Programme Board members and the Terms of Reference** • Programme Board members introduced themselves and provided a brief summary of their experience to date. • It was agreed that the Terms of Reference should state that the work of the Programme Board will reflect the implementation of *A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a New International Protection Support Service*; and include reference to governance structures and a Risk Committee.

Ref	Key Decision / Discussion Points
	• It was agreed to wait until after 23 September meeting, to share a final version of the implementation plan with the 17 NGOs who had nominated the former resident and two NGO board members. • It was clarified that a Board member recently joining the Irish Refugee Council did not constitute a conflict of interest. **Actions Agreed:** • It was agreed that there should be regular briefings and updates shared between the Programme Board and the Programme Board established by the Department of Justice. • It was agreed that there should be further discussion of the Terms of Reference at the Board's next meeting. **Action Owners:** Secretariat and Programme Board
3.	**Presentation on the content of the White Paper** • The Board received a brief presentation on the content of *A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a New International Protection Support Service* and the policy behind it.
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Ref	Key Decision / Discussion Points
	○ An advice paper setting out the draft process and procedure on sourcing accommodation. • The Chair thanked the presenters. **Actions Agreed:** • It was agreed that the Secretariat would share the presentations with the Programme Board members. **Action Owners:** IPSS Transition Team and Secretariat
5.	**Questions** **Actions Agreed:** • It was agreed that a paper outlining the overall governance architecture for the implementation of the White Paper would be drawn up and discussed at the next meeting. • It was agreed that the implementation plan would be examined in more detail at the next meeting of the Programme Board, and Board members would provide feedback to the Secretariat by 1 September 2021. • It was agreed that the pending policy implementation paper on International Protection payments would include a review of payments for Phase One as well as Phase Two. • It was noted that the Secretariat will engage directly with Programme Board members on the supports that will be offered to children and young people as part of the new model. • It was agreed that a Project Initiation Document (PID) will be drawn up and circulated for the next meeting, which will outline the goals of the project and how they can be measured. • It was agreed that the values and principles that underpin the new system are very important and should be provided in a separate document to all Board members. • The importance attached by the Government to the implementation of the White Paper recommendations was emphasised. **Action Owners:** IPSS Transition Team and Secretariat
6.	**Working Arrangements for the Programme Board** **Actions Agreed:** • It was agreed that papers will be circulated to Board members at least a week in advance of a meeting. • It was agreed that documents should be circulated in Microsoft Word format.

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	• It was also agreed that the slides for scheduled presentations would be shared in advance of the meeting. • It was agreed that the Secretariat would find out if DCEDIY could provide one central web portal where relevant papers and documents would be available for all Board members to access. **Action Owners:** Secretariat

Kind Regards,
Brendan Meighan

International Protection Accommodation Policy, Disability Policy & Anti-Racism Policy

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Cúirt Montague, 7-11 Sráid Montague, Baile Átha Cliath 2 D02 FT96
Montague Court, 7-11 Montague Street, Dublin 2 D02 FT96

From: DCEDIY IPSS Transition Team
Sent: Friday 17 September 2021 16:23
To: [redacted]

Subject: IPSS Programme Board meeting invite (23 Sep)

Dear Programme Board members,

Please find attached the documents and Webex link for the next meeting of the Programme Board, which will take place at **10 am** on **Thursday 23 September**. The slides of a short presentation on the acquisition of accommodation, which will be presented at the meeting, are also included. I would be grateful if you could confirm your attendance by emailing the Secretariat at Programme.Board.Secretariat@equality.gov.ie

Webex Meeting Information
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Thursday, Sep 23 2021

Start meeting

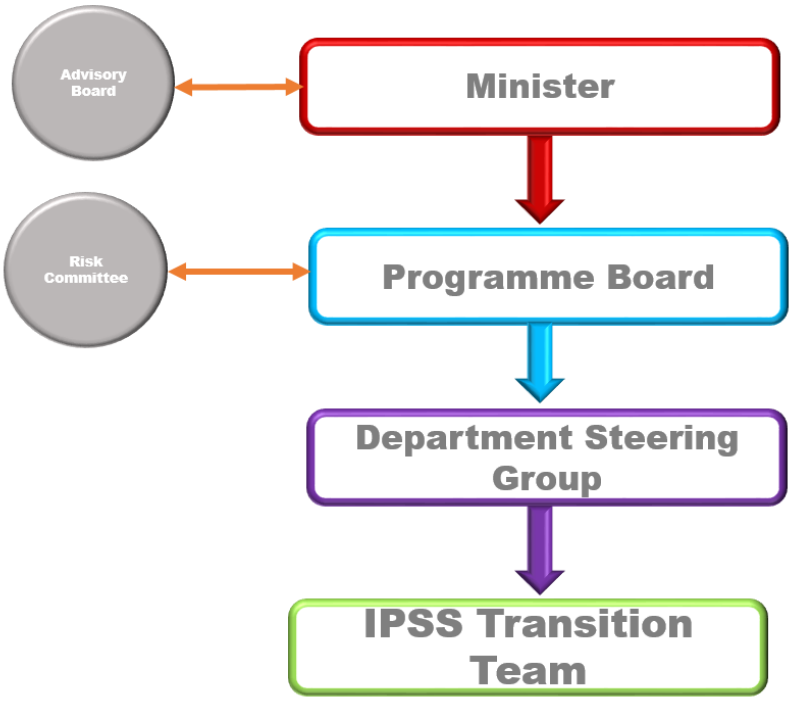
Meeting link:
https://irlgov.webex.com/irlgov/j.php?MTID=m198cdef23e27377a91a4e0a9bb9fe2da

Meeting number: 2744 487 6083

Password: 4Ab3wBHK4EG

Host key: 747656

International Protection Support Service Project Governance Structure



Minister: Role as the project sponsor and has overall responsibility for the implementation of transition to the new accommodation model. The Minister will report periodically to government on how the project is progressing and is the ultimate decision maker.

Programme Board: Chaired by DCEDIY and comprising representatives of Departments, Agencies, and NGOs with a role in the delivery of services to applicants for International Protection under the new policy. One former resident of the Direct Provision system is also represented on the board. Experts in areas such as housing and human rights will be invited to join periodically to support in the delivery of the new model.

The Programme Board will oversee the transition to the new model of accommodation and supports for International Protection applicants including:

- Providing guidance, expertise and advice on developing the new model of accommodation.
- Acting as an information sharing mechanism among Departments and Agencies who have a role in the implementation of the new model and meet annually with representatives of inter-agency working groups to facilitate the exchange of good practice.
- Setting performance indicators for the new model and monitoring progress against those indicators.

- Providing twice-yearly monitoring reports to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth which will be published on the DCEDIY website.
- Following the transition period, the Programme Board will continue to meet to review progress in implementing the new accommodation model, to highlight issues of concern and to recommend modifications, where needed, to the new model.
- Monitoring progress on the reduction in processing times according to the action plan being implemented by the Department of Justice.

Advisory Board: An external advisory group of three independent members who reports directly into the Minister.

The Advisory Board will monitor the implementation of the new model including:

- Monitoring the progress of the transition to the new model of accommodation;
- Providing advice on the transition process generally or on specific areas requiring attention;
- Preparing and publishing reports periodically on the progress of the transition and to highlight any concerns arising.

Risk Committee: The Programme Board will appoint a Risk Committee from among its members. Risks will also be identified, mitigated and managed through DCEDIY's existing risk management system.

The risk committee will oversee the management of risks including:

- Agreeing and approving a risk management framework which is in line with DCEDIY's risk management system.
- Reviewing the effectiveness of the risk management framework.
- Identifying emerging risks.

International Protection Support Service (IPSS) Transition Team: The team established in DCEDIY to manage transition to the new model of accommodation. This team will have appropriate skills and expertise in project management, housing, asylum seeker integration and supports, procurement and finance. Over the course of the project consultancy expertise in the areas of communication, project management and change management will be procured

The IPSS Transition Team will:

- Develop the detailed design of the new model of accommodation and supports set out in the White Paper;
- Draw up an implementation plan based on the detailed design;
- Lead on implementation of all aspects of the plan.

Proposals are in preparation for consideration by DCEDIY's Management Board with regard to ensuring that the relevant units of the Department are involved in structures to oversee key decisions on the programme.

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Ref: 210923(2)/PBIPSS/02/ToR revised draft v2

Programme Board to oversee the transition to the new International Protection Support Service

Draft Terms of Reference

Statement of Purpose

To support the State in its commitment to end the current system of Direct Provision and replace it with a new international protection accommodation and supports system based on a not-for-profit approach, grounded in the principles of human rights, respect for diversity and respect for privacy and family life, as outlined in *A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a new International Protection Support Service*.

To this end, oversee and advise on the development and implementation of the new model, including the development of an effective governance model; appoint a Risk Committee from among its members to oversee the management of risks according to an agreed framework; and make recommendations to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

Advice

1. Provide guidance and expertise on the development and implementation of the new model of accommodation and supports for international protection applicants, as outlined in *A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a new International Protection Support Service,* to the DCEDIY International Protection Support Service (IPSS) Transition Team and to Departments and Agencies with responsibility for implementing the transition to the new model;
2. Contribute to the development of implementation plans for the transition to the new model of accommodation and supports for international protection applicants.

Information Exchange

3. Act as an information sharing mechanism among Departments and Agencies with responsibility for implementing the transition to the new model of accommodation and supports for international protection applicants, including linking the IPSS Transition Team with key relationships, experts and supports;

4. Meet annually with representatives of inter-agency working groups to facilitate the exchange of good practice and to identify ways in which coordination can be improved at local level;
5. Develop and implement a communications/transparency strategy with the Department for all communications relating to the work of the Board and the outside world;
6. Meet regularly with the Programme Board set up by the Department of Justice to ensure effective coordination and timely information exchange between these two complementary reform processes.

Monitoring

7. Appoint a Risk Committee from among its members to oversee the management of risks according to an agreed framework. Risks will also be identified, mitigated and managed through DCEDIY's existing risk management system;
8. Input to the development of a governance model where children's rights are at the forefront of the development and delivery of the new model, as stated in *A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a new International Protection Support Service,* and which will oversee the delivery of integrated, high quality rights based services;
9. Monitor the transition to the new model (to enable this monitoring, information will be supplied to the Board by Departments and Agencies with responsibility for implementing the transition. Information will also be supplied by the Local Authority Inter-Agency Working Groups that will co-ordinate the delivery of the programme at local level);
10. Agree the progress and performance indicators against which it will monitor the transition to the new model;
11. Provide twice-yearly monitoring reports to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, these reports to be published on the DCEDIY website.

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From: DCEDIY IPSS Transition Team [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday 21 September 2021 09:23
To: [redacted]

Subject: Implementation Plan Copy

Dear Programme Board members,

Ahead of the next meeting of the Programme Board, for your convenience please find attached a copy of the Implementation Plan that was circulated at the last meeting in July.

Kind Regards,
Programme Board Secretariat

International Protection Accommodation Policy & Anti-Racism Policy

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Cúirt Montague, 7-11 Sráid Montague, Baile Átha Cliath 2 D02 FT96
Montague Court, 7-11 Montague Street, Dublin 2 D02 FT96

From: DCEDIY Sec Gens Office
Sent: Monday 4 October 2021 17:19
To

Subject: NDP Allocation

Dear Programme Board member,

You will see today the proposed NDP capital allocations for the development of the International Protection Support Service. While the bulk of the capital proposed for allocation to the process has been scheduled for the period from 2025 onwards, reflecting the usual timeframes for large capital projects, the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform has indicated that further funding will be forthcoming for the transition process in the 2022-2024 period according as our capital projects mature. We will provide further briefing to you in this regard at the Programme Board on 21 October.

Kind regards,

Fergal Lynch
Secretary General

From: DCEDIY IPSS Transition Team
Sent: Tuesday 5 October 2021 09:57
To: [redacted]
Subject: Ownership Options Sub-Group First Meeting

Dear Programme Board members,

You have been selected to sit on the Programme Board's Ownership Options Sub-Group. It has been proposed that this Sub-Group hold its first meeting on the afternoon of Tuesday 12 October with Paula Quinn of the IPSS Transition Team and Claire Feeney of the Housing Agency. Would it suit everyone for this meeting to be scheduled for 2.30 on Tuesday 12 October?

Kind Regards,
Brendan Meighan

International Protection Accommodation Policy & Anti-Racism Policy

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Cúirt Montague, 7-11 Sráid Montague, Baile Átha Cliath 2 D02 FT96
Montague Court, 7-11 Montague Street, Dublin 2 D02 FT96

From: DCEDIY IPSS Transition Team
Sent: Tuesday 5 October 2021 10:1[illegible]
To:
Cc:
Subject: RE: Ownership Options Sub-Group First Meeting

Dear Paul,

What is your availability next week? We think it is of key importance that the views of DHLGH are represented at these meetings and we will try our best to organise a time that suits you.

Kind Regards,
Brendan

From: Paul Benson (Housing) <
Sent: Tuesday 5 October 2021 10:12
To: DCEDIY Programme Board Secretariat
Henderson <
Cc: Edwina Steele (DCEDIY)
Subject: RE: Ownership Options Sub-Group First Meeting

Brendan,

We have a JOC appearance that afternoon so I will be unavailable.

Paul

Paul Benson, P.O.
Housing Grants, LA Stock Improvement and Traveller Accommodation
An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Oifigí an Rialtais, Béal an Átha, Co Mhaigh Eo. F26 E8N6
Government Offices, Ballina, Co Mayo, F26 E8N6

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Ref: 211021(3)/Agenda PBIPSS

Programme Board to oversee the transition to the new International Protection Support Service

Agenda for 21 October 2021, 10:00 to 12:00

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1. Minutes of 23 September 2021

2. IPSS Budget Update

3. Project Initiation Document

4. International Protection Payments Policy Paper

5. Governance Model

6. Subgroups: ownership subgroup and risk subgroup

7. Ownership Model

8. A.O.B.

9. Next meeting is Thursday 18 November 2021, 10 to 12:00

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Ref: 211021(3)/02/draft minutes 210923/PBIPSS

Programme Board to oversee the transition to the new International Protection Support Service

Draft Minutes

Date:	23 September 2021
Time:	10:00am
Location:	Video Conference
In Attendance:	Fergal Lynch (Chair), Carol Baxter, Patricia Doherty, Nick Henderson, Rosemary Kunene, Brendan Lenihan, John O'Connor, Enda O'Neill, Jim Walsh, Tanya Ward, David Delaney Claire Feeney, Paula Quinn, Secretariat: Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth. (Úna Ní Dhubhghaill, Edwina Steele, Brendan Meighan, Michelle Donohoe, Claire McKevett)
Apologies:	Paul Benson, Bob Jordan

Ref	Key Decision / Discussion Points
	The Chair welcomed everyone to the second meeting of the Programme Board.
1.	**Minutes of 29 July 2021** • The minutes from 29 July were agreed subject to one amendment. • It was noted that Minister O'Gorman had announced the three-person expert advisory group, comprising Dr Catherine Day, Dr David Donoghue and Dr Lorcan Sirr. **Actions Agreed:**

	• It was agreed that the minutes from 29 July 2021 will be amended to include Nick Henderson's point regarding broader representation of people with lived experience of the application process. • It was agreed that the names of the secretariat will be included in future minutes. • It was agreed that the secretariat would set up a file sharing site for all members of the Programme Board. **Action Owners:** Secretariat
2.	**Programme Board's Terms of Reference** • The Head of the IPSS Policy Team briefed the Board on changes made to the Terms of Reference following feedback received from the Board. A Statement of Purpose has been inserted. • It was agreed that David Delaney would serve as a point of contact with the Department of Justice Programme Board, as he sits on both Boards. • It was agreed that papers on Children and Youth Services would be commissioned in order to support the White Paper. • It was agreed that the section of the Terms of Reference on information exchange would be reworded to reflect a sharing mechanism between all representatives including Government Departments and Agencies. **Actions Agreed:** • It was agreed that proposed changes made to the Terms of Reference would be circulated to the Board for approval by email. **Action Owners:** Secretariat
3.	**Discussion of the Ownership Model** • The Head of the IPSS Transition Team presented ownership model options for Phase Two accommodation. • It was agreed that a subgroup of the Programme Board would be formed to provide expert advice on the ownership model options. • The options presented were discussed, with many members of the Board expressing an initial preference for a hybrid model. • It was noted that the Housing Agency will be carrying out a Cost-Benefit Analysis of the options, which will be drafted before the first meeting of the subgroup. • It was suggested that the option of having Local Authorities manage the property portfolio be considered. • It was noted that procurement must be focused on in addition to the question of ownership.

	Actions Agreed: • It was agreed that a subgroup would be formed and interested members of the Programme Board would volunteer by email. **Action Owners:** Programme Board and Secretariat
4.	**Update on Sourcing Accommodation** • The Head of the IPSS Transition Team presented an update on the sourcing of accommodation for Phase Two. • It was noted that the CCMA Allocation Key has been finalised. **Actions** • It was agreed that the CCMA Allocation Key and the Housing Agency parameters document for sourcing accommodation would be circulated to the Programme Board for information. **Action Owners:** IPSS Transition Team and Secretariat
5.	**Discussion of feedback on the Implementation Plan** • The Board's feedback on the Implementation Plan was discussed. It was noted that the Implementation Plan is an iterative document. Changes will be made based on the feedback of the Board and a new version of the document will be circulated in October. • It was agreed that the Project Initiation Document (PID) would be reviewed by Brendan Lenihan and presented at the next meeting. • It was suggested that a greater emphasis be placed on project management. • The Head of the IPSS Transition Team presented an update on recruitment of staff for the Transition Team. **Actions Agreed:** • It was agreed that the Implementation Plan would be revised and circulated in October. • It was agreed that the draft PID would be presented at the next meeting. **Action Owners:** IPSS Transition Team and Secretariat
6.	**Governance Document and Risk Committee** • The Head of the IPSS Transition Team presented a paper on governance structure, which was discussed by the Board.

	• The differences between the roles of the Programme Board and the Advisory Board were clarified. • It was agreed that there will be communication between the Programme Board and the Advisory Board. • It was clarified that the Programme Board's remit relates to the transition to the new model of the International Protection Support System, and not to issues regarding the current system. • It was agreed that the issue of how to ensure that all applicants will be treated with dignity and respect in the new system was key and would need to be addressed. • It was agreed that papers on support payments for applicants would be presented at the next meeting, and a paper on support services would be presented at November's meeting. • It was agreed that it would be useful for members of the Programme Board to have each other's contact details. **Actions Agreed:** • It was agreed that members of the Programme Board interested in being part of the Risk Committee would volunteer themselves by email after the meeting. The committee would then be appointed at the next meeting. • It was agreed that the contact details of the Programme Board would be circulated among its members by the secretariat. **Action Owners:** Programme Board and Secretariat
7.	**A.O.B.** • It was noted that once the Implementation Plan is fully complete, it may be disseminated to a wider audience. • David Delaney presented an update from the Department of Justice. It was noted that the IPO aim to put in place new processes that will allow a processing of applications to increase by 100% compared to last year. The system would be scaled up by increasing staffing, training EOs to carry out interviews, retaining the use of virtual interviews, and expanding working hours. It was noted that increasing numbers of applications may slow down the process. **Actions Agreed:** • Nick Henderson will provide advice into how more input can be gained from people who have lived experience of the application process. **Action Owners:** Irish Refugee Council

8.	**Next Meeting:** • The dates of meetings until the end of 2021 were agreed as follows: - Thursday 21 October 2021, 10 to 12:00 - Thursday 18 November 2021, 10 to 12:00 - Thursday 16 December 2021, 10 to 12:00 • The meeting on Thursday 21 October will take place online. • It is hoped that the meeting on Thursday 18 November will be held in person, possibly in Balseskin or another accommodation centre.

From: DCEDIY IPSS Transition Team
Sent: Friday 15 October 2021 17:05
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]

Subject: Documents for 21 October PB Meeting

Dear Programme Board members,

Please find attached the documents for the next meeting of the Programme Board, which will take place on Thursday 21 October. These documents will also be put up on FileCloud, an internet sharing service where you will be able to access and download them, on Monday. Additionally, an email will be sent out on Monday explaining how to access these documents which will include a step-by-step guide detailing the process involved in setting up a FileCloud account. I hope you all have a pleasant weekend.

Kind Regards,
Brendan Meighan

International Protection Accommodation Policy & Anti-Racism Policy

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Cúirt Montague, 7-11 Sráid Montague, Baile Átha Cliath 2 D02 FT96
Montague Court, 7-11 Montague Street, Dublin 2 D02 FT96

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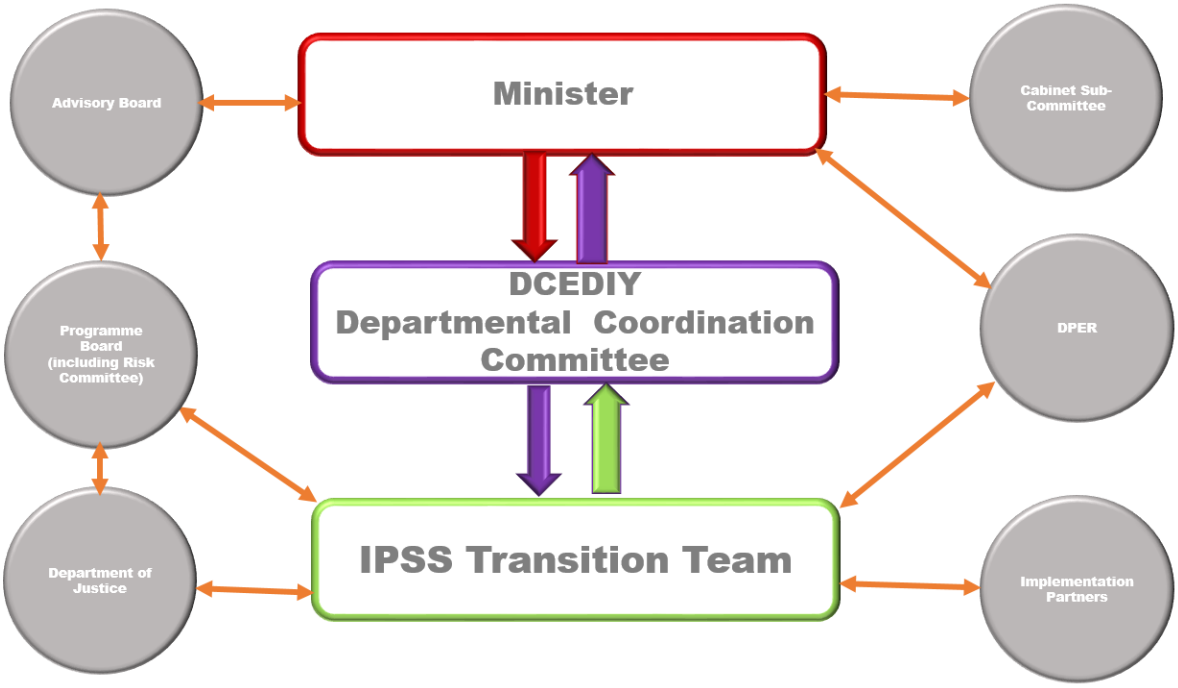
International Protection Support Service Project Governance Structure



Department Project Structure

Minister: Role as the project sponsor and has overall responsibility for the implementation of transition to the new accommodation model. The Minister will report periodically to government on how the project is progressing and is the ultimate decision maker.

DCEDIY Departmental Coordination Committee: Comprising members of the Department's Management Board, representatives from the IPSS Transition Team, International Protection Policy Unit, the department's Finance unit and other department experts as needed e.g. DCEDIY Chief Social Worker.

The Coordination Committee will:

- Provide guidance, expertise and advice on developing the new model of accommodation.
- Ensure the project is aligned with the Department's overall strategy
- Provide budget oversight.
- Monitor the project's risks and mitigations for their implications for DCEDIY.

- Serve as an escalation point for the IPSS Transition Team for any issues and decision points.

International Protection Support Service (IPSS) Transition Team: The team established in DCEDIY to manage transition to the new model of accommodation. This team will have appropriate skills and expertise in project management, housing, asylum seeker integration and supports, procurement and finance. Over the course of the project consultancy expertise in the areas of communication, project management and change management will be procured.

The IPSS Transition Team will:

- Develop the detailed design of the new model of accommodation and supports set out in the White Paper;
- Draw up an implementation plan based on the detailed design;
- Lead on implementation of all aspects of the plan.

Monitoring Implementation of the Project

Programme Board: Chaired by DCEDIY and comprising representatives of Departments, Agencies, and NGOs with a role in the delivery of services to applicants for International Protection under the new policy. One former resident of the Direct Provision system is also represented on the board. Experts in areas such as housing and human rights will be invited to join periodically to support in the delivery of the new model.

The Programme Board will oversee the transition to the new model of accommodation and supports for international protection applicants including:

- Providing guidance, expertise and advice on developing the new model of accommodation.
- Acting as an information sharing mechanism among Departments and Agencies who have a role in the implementation of the new model, and meet annually with representatives of Interagency working groups to facilitate the exchange of good practice.
- Setting performance indicators for the new model and monitoring progress against those indicators.
- Providing twice-yearly monitoring reports to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth which will be published on the DCEDIY website.
- Following the transition period, the Programme Board will continue to meet to review progress in implementing the new accommodation model, to highlight issues of concern and to recommend modifications, where needed, to the new model.
- Monitoring progress on the reduction in processing times according to the action plan being implemented by the Department of Justice.

External Advisory Group: of three independent members that reports directly into the Minister.

The Advisory Group will monitor the implementation of the new model including:

- Monitoring the progress of the transition to the new model of accommodation;
- Providing advice on the transition process generally or on specific areas requiring attention;
- Preparing and publishing reports periodically on the progress of the transition and to highlight any concerns arising.

Risk Committee: the Programme Board will appoint a Risk subgroup from among its members. Risks will also be identified, mitigated and managed through DCEDIY's existing risk management system.

The Risk subgroup will oversee the management of risks including:

- Agreeing and approving a risk management framework which is in line with DCEDIY's risk management system.
- Reviewing the effectiveness of the risk management framework.
- Identifying emerging risks.

Social Affairs and Equality Cabinet Committee: Oversees implementation of the Programme for Government commitments including implementation of the White Paper. It will receive detailed reports as requested on the project's progress.

Implementation Partners

Organisation	Responsibility
Department of Justice	• Reducing the timelines for the processing of international protection applications.
Department of Housing	• Supporting the delivery of the project as the policy makers in the housing area. Their knowledge and expertise will guide the Transition Team throughout the delivery.
Department of Social Protection	• In collaboration with DCEDIY, implementation of system for income support and child support payments. • Collaboration on employment outreach supports.
Department of Education	• Ensure provision of both primary and secondary school places.
Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science	• In collaboration with the Education and Training Boards development and provision of English Language supports. • Ensuring access to Higher Education Support Scheme.
Department of Transport	• Put in place legislation to allow international protection applicants to obtain driver's licences.

Department of Rural and Community Development	• Collaborate with DCEDIY to ensure that local programmes which promote the integration of applicants into the community are available for international protection-related initiatives.
Department of Business Enterprise and Innovation	• Collaboration on employment outreach supports and increasing access to the labour market. • Providing supports on starting a business.
Legal Aid Board	• Provide resources for a Legal Aid Board office in each of the six Integration and Reception Centres. • Put in place structures for the provision of legal advice and support to international protection applicants in Phase Two accommodation.
Education and Training Boards	• Development and provision of English Language supports in both Phase One and Phase Two. • Provide resources for an ETB office in each of the six Integration and Reception Centres. • Member of each county interagency working group.
Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSCs)	• Provision of services and supports for children and young people. • Member of each county interagency working group.
Tusla	• Coordinated and concerted planning and delivery of services at regional and local levels for children, young people and their families. • Member of each county interagency working group.
HSE	• Provide resources for a medical centre in each of the six Integration and Reception Centres. • Develop and enhance medical assessments and services for international protection applicants including vulnerability assessments. • Member of each county interagency working group.
An Garda Síochána	• Input to the Phase One orientation programme. • Member of each county interagency working group.
Local Authorities	• Coordination of integration supports at a local level including Chairing interagency working groups in every county. • Development of an allocation key to aid in the sourcing of Phase Two accommodation.
The Housing Agency	Support DCEDIY through: • the provision of expert advice on sourcing, delivering and management of housing and accommodation, • guidance relating to other support needs for individuals and families, and • the provision of direct assistance with the delivery of housing accommodation and technical support on projects as required.

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Project Initiation Document

Implementation of the new Model of Accommodation and Supports for International Protection applicants as set out in *A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a New International Protection Support Service.*

Purpose

The Project Initiation Document, also known as the PID, is the agreed document in use in the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Youth and Integration (DCEDIY) to assist people undertaking projects. The purpose of the PID is to outline key information regarding a defined project. The document is designed to be a vehicle for communication to all key stakeholders and should be updated throughout the project.

Document Ownership and Approval

Project Name:	Implementation of the new Model of Accommodation and Supports for International Protection applicants as set out in *A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a New International Protection Support Service.*
Prepared by:	International Support Service (IPSS) Transition Team
Owner:	Paula Quinn, Head of IPSS Transition Team
Date:	15th October 2021
Next Review Date:	21st October 2021
Version:	V1.4

Approval Record

Date	Name and Signature

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Project Initiation Document

Definition

Division and Unit:	International Protection, Integration & Equality Division IPSS Transition Team
Executive Summary/Project Purpose:	Under the recast Reception Conditions Directive, which Ireland transposed into law in July 2018, there is a statutory obligation on the state to provide accommodation for any person who seeks International protection. The Government made a commitment in the Programme for Government to end the system of Direct Provision and replace it with a new International protection Accommodation model that is based on a not for profit approach. As part of this process, Roderic O'Gorman T.D., Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, published *A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a New International Protection Support Service* on 26 February 2021. This White Paper outlines the proposed new system of accommodation and supports that will be offered to applicants for international protection and is the result of an extensive consultation process with Civil Society Organisations, residents of Direct Provision centres, and other Government Departments and Bodies. The new system is based on a series of principles which is centred on a Human Rights approach with a focus on dignity, respect and privacy for all. The new model will co-ordinate a system of accommodation and supports that ensures people who are applying for protection are helped integrate into Ireland from day one, with health, housing, education, and employment supports at the core of the new system. All families will be offered own-door accommodation, while single people will be offered own-room accommodation. Congregated accommodation settings will be phased out by the

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	end of 2024. New accommodation will be managed by independent not-for-profit organisations operating on behalf of the State. A transition team has been established to implement the new accommodation model detailed in the White Paper on a phased basis between the years 2021 and 2024.
Strategic Alignment	As set out in its statement of strategy 2021-2023 the DCEDIY's mission is to enhance the lives of children, young people, adults, families and communities, recognising diversity and promoting equality of opportunity and its vision is for a fair, equal and inclusive society where rights are respected, and where everyone can reach their potential. The Department's current strategic goals are: • We will develop, implement and influence evidence informed policies and legislation that improve the outcomes for those we serve. • We will ensure the provision of a range of quality and sustainable services, underpinned by strategic investment, that meet the needs of individuals, families and communities. • We will help those who are vulnerable, including children, young people and at risk individuals, to overcome adverse circumstances and to achieve their full potential. • We will work in partnership with individuals, families, and communities across Government Departments, Public Bodies and Civil Society to achieve better outcomes. • We will maintain high standards of performance and corporate governance with engaged, motivated and supported staff. This project is very closely aligned with this mission, vision and goals as it aims to improve service

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provision that meets the needs of individuals and families in the International protection process, particularly those who are vulnerable. Specifically the project will:

- Develop a new accommodation model for International protection applicants, based on a State-owned and not for profit approach.
- Offer an enhanced range of services to International protection applicants, including health services, educational supports and English language supports. These supports will be provided through mainstream services in order to ensure that they will be sustainable long-term. Targeted programmes will also be developed where mainstream services do not meet the needs of International protection applicants.
- Focus in particular on the needs of vulnerable persons availing of International Protection Support Service services, particularly children.
- Implement cross-departmental approaches as a system which will require cross-departmental implementation.
- Review the practices of the current system and feedback from residents and former residents to ensure that key learnings from the existing system are known to those planning the new model.

Scope & Project Delivery Details

Main Goals:

The scope of this project is broad and wide-reaching. A commitment has been made in the Programme for Government to completely overhaul the system of International protection while maintaining a focus on a not-for-profit system that adopts a human rights based approach. DCEDIY is the department that is leading on the implementation of the White Paper. However, this is a cross-departmental project with a range of departments and agencies having responsibility for the delivery of key aspects of the new model. Effective delivery will require collaboration between departments and agencies delivering the new model.

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Accommodation: A new two phased permanent model of accommodation centred on a not for profit approach which moves away from institutional and congregated living, provides all International protection applicants with either own door or own room accommodation. The new accommodation model will be professional, delivered to a high and consistent standard and will be agile and flexible to respond to variations on demand. Each county will be asked to accommodate International protection applicants which will ensure that the International protection accommodation process will become a standard feature in all towns and cities across the country. Transitioning people from IPAS accommodation to the new model of accommodation will also fall under the scope of this project. A detailed transition plan from the IPAS system to the new accommodation model will be developed as the project progresses.

Integration: A model of integration which supports and encourages International protection applicants to integrate into Irish society from day one including active engagement from local communities. The new model will be grounded in a human rights approach with an emphasis placed on respecting diversity, privacy and family life to encourage integration into different communities around the country.

Support services: A broad range of wrap-around support services available to applicants for International protection to ensure they have all of the necessary tools to live independently. Health, housing, education, childcare and employment supports will be at the core of the new model with the focus on ensuring that the needs of International protection applicants are met. Supports and access to services will be tailored to needs and will be available across the country.

Guiding principles:

- **Integration from day one:** The guiding principle for Phase One ‘Reception and Integration Centres’ and Phase Two ‘Accommodation in the Community’ will be an approach that seeks to encourage integration from day one, respond to vulnerabilities, and to place people on the most successful pathway

possible towards an independent life in Ireland, should their application prove successful.

- **Human rights and equality based:** the rights of applicants will guide the delivery of the model, with a particular focus on children's rights, dignity, respect, privacy and on access to the right information and support at all stages of the process.
- **Delivery of high standards:** the new model will be one characterised by high standards of support, services and assistance, which all international protection applicants can expect to receive.
- **Professional:** delivery will be undertaken by organisations experienced in delivering accommodation and / or services and understand the need for equality, diversity, cultural competence and the particular requirements of those fleeing conflict and / or who have experienced trauma. Their staff will be required to receive cultural competency training on a regular basis.
- **Community engagement:** communities and not-for-profit organisations will be actively encouraged to become engaged in supporting applicants and their families at each stage of the process, the inter-agency working groups will provide the framework for this consultation and engagement at the local level.

Desired Outcomes/Deliverables:

Accommodation:

Build six new state-owned Reception and Integration Centres which can accommodate up to 2,000 residents, provide own room or own door accommodation, support independent living and have all relevant facilities and supports on site.

Secure a supply of community housing, spread across the country, located in urban areas with access to public services that caters for the flow through of 3,500 international protection applicants in a 12-month period. This community housing will be used to facilitate applicants moving out of an Integration and Reception Centre after four months and into own door or own room accommodation.

Commission ICT systems to support the operation of the new system of accommodation in Reception and Integration Centres and subsequently in community housing.

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Design and roll-out of Communication Strategies to support the implementation of the New Accommodation Model.

Transition from the current IPAS system of accommodation to the new model of accommodation, moving all applicants in the current system to the new model as needed.

Integration:

Design and implement a comprehensive orientation programme, including an intensive English language course, which will be delivered to applicants in Phase One.

Design and implement caseworker structures for Phase One and resettlement worker and intercultural worker structures for Phase Two to support the integration of applicants.

Establish an Integration Support Fund Scheme to assist local communities in supporting the integration of applicants in Phase Two and beyond.

Support services:

Design and implement a holistic assessment process to evaluate applicants' language skills, work skills etc. on arrival in Reception and Integration Centres, to assist in tailoring the orientation programme to the individual applicant's learning needs.

Design and implement an inter-agency working group model located in each county, to coordinate the delivery of services to international protection applicants at a local level.

Design and implement a new international protection support payment.

Coordinate enhanced mainstream public services for International protection applicants.

Design and run a procurement programme for NGO support services.

Establish an interpretation service.

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Assumptions:	The new model is being designed to accommodate 2,000 international protection applicants at any one time in Phase One, which will cater for the flow through of 3,500 every 12 months in Phase Two. Applicants will remain for four months in a Reception and Integration Centre and then move into Phase Two accommodation in the community for an average 14 months. Accommodation will be sourced across all parts of the country based a Local Authority allocation key. One of the six Reception and Integration Centres will be located in Dublin. The average processing times will be for first instance decisions to be made within 6 months, and on appeal to International Protection Appeals Tribunal (IPAT), within a further 6 months, in line with the recommendation of the Advisory Group. One third of the 3,500 annual applicants will be children. This assumption will impact the types of services that need to be acquired in order for the new model to function efficiently. These services could include healthcare services, educational services and services provided by Tusla. It also may have an impact on types of accommodation needed. The new model of accommodation will be based on a not for profit approach.
Constraints:	A major constraint will be delivering what is a large capital programme within the timeframe outlined in the White Paper. This will require active management throughout the implementation process as any delay could have a knock-on effect on a different area of the implementation process. Another considerable constraint is the housing capacity for Phase Two accommodation, especially in sourcing the accommodation that is needed for single people. There are constraints on the housing supply nationally and it may be difficult to acquire the sufficient volume of accommodation units needed in order for the new model to work efficiently.

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	In relation to financing this project, a potential constraint is that of higher capital costs that anticipated. Increased competition for construction resources may inflate the costs that will be incurred and it is difficult to estimate the potential extent of this. There is also huge competition in the housing market currently in Ireland and acquiring accommodation may exceed the estimates that have been made. A potential constraint on the project is the reliance on the AHB sector to deliver community accommodation and support services for Phase Two of the new model. Delivery will depend on whether the AHBs have the capacity to provide these services. The new model is moving away from private companies and is focusing on a not-for-profit approach which is a new challenge in this area. NGOs will also be relied upon to deliver support services and this could be another constraint, particularly if there is a high number of International protection applicants who require more specialist supports. There may also be an adverse reception from communities to the location of Reception and Integration centres. Locals may not want these centres being situated in their neighbourhoods but this constraint can be mitigated for by running public awareness campaigns and using the support of the inter-agency working groups in each local authority. In relation to support services, the capacity of public services to deliver supports will be very relevant. As it is difficult to predict exactly the number of applicants that need supports at any one time, it is difficult to plan for this constraint. The use of mainstream services may also put excessive pressure on these services and may result in International protection applicants not receiving the level of supports that they need. Delays in processing times could have a significant impact on the efficacy of the model.
Dependencies:	This is a cross-departmental project so the delivery of the new model requires the delivery by

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	departments and agencies of the aspects of the model for which they are responsible. The Department of Justice is responsible for achieving the shorter processing times that are key to the success of the new model. The Department of Education is responsible for ensuring access to primary and post-primary education, including for children with special education needs. The Department of Further and Higher Education, Innovation and Science is responsible, with the Education and Training Boards, for delivering more intensive English language training and for ensuring access to further and higher education. The Department of Enterprise and Employment and the Department of Social Protection are responsible for delivery of commitments in relation to business and employment supports. The Department of Social Protection is also responsible for Phase One income supports and for the payments systems for Phase Two income supports. The Department of Community and Rural Development is responsible for ensuring access to community integration funding. The Department of Health and the HSE are responsible for ensuring access to healthcare, including for those with mental health needs. Local authorities are responsible for chairing integration supports at local level and for the allocation key.
Procurement Strategy:	The project will require procurement of a number of services including public relations services, property valuations and property management to name but a few. This procurement will be carried out by the IPSS Transition Team in conjunction with the International Protection Procurement Services team and the Office of Government Procurement. This is a complex project that is still in the planning stage. A more structured approach to procurement will be applied as the project progresses. This will be a robust procurement strategy which will adhere to the International Protection Procurement Services guidelines and also the guidelines recommended by the Office of Government Procurement. As per the Civil Service approach, OGP frameworks will be used as appropriate. If no

DRAFT

	framework is available, tendering will be carried out according to EU guidelines.
Stakeholder Management:	As well as other government departments and agencies, there a number of other external stakeholders as outlined in the appendix. All of these organisations need to be kept informed of progress and developments. The NGOs and AHBs will be required to undertake a procurement process before working with DCEDIY, so this process will be outlined clearly to prospective organisations. A full list of stakeholders can be found in the project implementation plan.
Budget:	The White Paper provides preliminary capital and current expenditure costings for the delivery of the new model of accommodation. These preliminary costings were developed in consultation with the relevant Departments and Agencies. The budget allocation for each year will be determined by the exchequer budget. A process will be put in place to review project milestones once the budget allocation is known each year.
Project Schedule & Key Milestones:	There are a number of key high level milestones that will indicate when the project is complete. They are set out below under an expected timeframe, however as previously mentioned, the implementation plan must be flexible in order to allow for any set-backs or opportunities that arise. The full implementation plan is being developed in line with the key milestone below. **2021** Appoint a Transition Team who will oversee the implementation of the White Paper. Initiate the planning process for projects that will require capital programmes. Deciding on an accelerated programme to support people with International protection status to move from IPAS accommodation to new homes in the community.

DRAFT

Commissioning accommodation to enable single people to have single occupancy bedrooms.

Establishing the inter-agency working group structures which will oversee community engagement.

Commissioning a bed management IT system that can identify availability of accommodation with the system.

Beginning a national information process to inform communities and consult with them about the new model.

2022

Beginning the process of moving single people into single occupancy accommodation.

Beginning the decommissioning of permanent centres.

Advancing the new build projects and the purchases of properties.

Developing the IT systems required to manage the system.

Establishing resettlement workers and intercultural workers for each county.

Providing additional English language supports through ETBs.

Developing the orientation programme and accompanying English language supports to be provided at the Reception and Integration Centres.

2023

Advancing the capital projects to build new Reception and Integration Centres that will accommodate applicants during Phase One.

Supporting eligible families into private tenancies.

DRAFT

Ensuring that relevant services are planned and ready to operate in a coordinated manner in these centres by year end.

Advancing the new build projects and the purchasing of accommodation.

Decommissioning further permanent centres operated by private providers.

Moving applicants into community hosting arrangements.

Reviewing accommodation strands to determine if they are delivering the necessary capacity and quality.

Reviewing how services are being coordinated and delivered to see if changes are needed.

2024

Operating the new Reception and Integration Centres according to the coordinated model of service delivery.

Completing the new build projects.

Commissioning further not-for-profit services to supports families and single people, including vulnerable people.

Moving applicants into these accommodation and service options and reviewing their effectiveness for applicants.

Decommissioning remaining permanent centres operated by private providers.

Carrying out a full review and evaluation of the new model.

Project Governance

DRAFT

A robust governance structure has been put in place to manage and oversee the implementation of the new model of accommodation. The governance model has been split been split in to three categories:

- The Department Project Structure
- Monitoring Implementation of the Project
- Key Implementation partners

A full description of the governance model can be found at Appendix A.

DRAFT

From: Paula Quinn (DCED
Sent: Wednesday 13 October 2021 19:16
To:

Cc:

Subject: Material for Ownership Sub-Group

Dear Programme Board Members
Please see attached material for tomorrow's meeting which contains an initial cost benefit analysis from the Housing Agency on three ownership options.

To support the group tomorrow we will have two people in attendance from the Housing Agency to explain the contents of the attached excel sheet. They will go through the document in detail and explain how it will support the group in assessing the ownership options.

The Housing Agency have indicated there are assumptions contained in the attached spreadsheet and they will go through them. They have also added a note on some of the terminology they have used:

- There are two different types of model used, Financial and Economic. These are financial analysis methodologies used under the Public Spending Code and we use them as part of the work we do with the Department of Housing.

- In the Financial Model, inflation is recognised so over time the cost or incomes increase. A specific discount factor (agreed with the Department of Housing and consistent with the Public Spending Code) of 2.66% is used.

- In the Economic model, inflation is not recognised. In addition the shadow cost of public funds is included. This is an economic measure of the overall economic cost the State spending money. Practically this adds 30% to the cost incurred by the State in the model. A specific discount factor (agreed with the Department of Housing and consistent with the Public Spending Code) of 4% is used in this model.

Sincere apologies for the delay in issuing the material and I look forward to seeing you in the morning.

Kind Regards
Paula

Paula Quinn
International Protection Support Service Transition Team

projects usually take time. As a consequence, we anticipate at this point that the expenditure on them in 2022 will primarily relate to planning and design. However, we have got a commitment from the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform that it will provide additional funding if we incur larger than anticipated expenditure on new build capital projects in 2022 or in subsequent years.

Our aim will be to move ahead as quickly as possible so to meet the 2024 deadline and have already indicated that we will seek additional funding if we incur costs earlier than anticipated.

I look forward to a more detailed discussion on this point on 21 October.

Kind regards

Fergal

Fergal Lynch | Secretary General | **Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth** | Miesian Plaza, **50-58 Baggot Street Lower** | Dublin 2 | **D02 XW14**
Designated Public Official under Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015

+ 353 1 6473045

From: DCEDIY Sec Gens Office
Sent: Wednesday 6 October 2021 09:24
To: Fergal Lynch (DCEDIY)
Subject: NDP Allocation

From: Nick Henderson
Sent: Wednesday 6 October 2021 09:22
To: DCEDIY Sec Gens Office

Subject: RE: NDP Allocation

Dear Fergal,

Thank you for this.

I think table 4.2 in the NDP (pasted below) is where the capital allocations are stated?

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth	32	33	40	50	100

It would be useful to know why the expenditure is weighted to later years rather than the other way round. I.e. the work and expenditure takes place in 2022, 2023 and 2024 (with the aim of meeting the 2024 timeline) and begins to taper off. Perhaps I am missing something. Also do you know the amount within the allocation that is committed to this project. Perhaps we can cover this in the meeting on the 21 October.

Thank you,

Nick

Chief Executive Officer | Irish Refugee Council

From: Fergal Lynch (DCEDIY)
Sent: Friday 15 October 2021 17:09
To: DCEDIY Sec Gens Office

Subject: FW: NDP Allocation

Dear Programme Board members

Copy for information of my reply to Nick.

Kind regards.

Fergal

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+ 353 1 6473045

From: Fergal Lynch (DCEDIY)
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Cc:

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I have scheduled a briefing for the Programme Board at its meeting of 21 October on the current and capital allocations for the White Paper transition process. A document will shortly issue to all members of the Board which will set out the allocations for 2022 and the manner in which the Transition Team plans to use those allocations.

We anticipate that the bulk of our expenditure for 2022 will be on the non-capital aspects of the transition process and on those aspects of the capital programme which involve the acquisition of property. As you know, new build

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Meeting number (access code): 2743 595 2779

Meeting password: wKUTtMhM739

Kind Regards,
Brendan Meighan

International Protection Accommodation Policy & Anti-Racism Policy

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Cúirt Montague, 7-11 Sráid Montague, Baile Átha Cliath 2 D02 FT96
Montague Court, 7-11 Montague Street, Dublin 2 D02 FT96

From: Brendan Meighan (DCEDIY)
Sent: Monday 18 October 2021 15:17
[redacted]
Subject: Link to Programme Board Meeting (21 October)
Importance: High

Dear Programme Board members,

Please find below the meeting details and Webex link for the next meeting of the Programme Board to oversee the transition to the new International Protection Support Service, which will be held at **10 am on Thursday, 21 October.**

Thursday, October 21, 2021
10:00 AM | (UTC+01:00) Dublin, Edinburgh, Lisbon, London | 2 hrs

Start meeting

More ways to join:

Join from the meeting link

https://irlgov.webex.com/irlgov/j.php?MTID=m40c1e0bc2e15f023a14cffc62f3398f5

Join by meeting number

[redacted]

Subject: Webex meeting invitation: Meeting of the Programme Board to oversee the transition to the new International Protection Support Service

Location: https://irlgov.webex.com/irlgov/j.php?MTID=mbe52c83467463684fdd8f5d632ac1701

Start: Thu 21/10/2021 10:00
End: Thu 21/10/2021 12:00
Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Organizer: Brendan Meighan

Brendan Meighan is inviting you to a scheduled Webex meeting.

Thursday, October 21, 2021
10:00 AM | (UTC+01:00) Dublin, Edinburgh, Lisbon, London | 2 hrs

Join meeting

More ways to join:

Join from the meeting link

https://irlgov.webex.com/irlgov/j.php?MTID=mbe52c83467463684fdd8f5d632ac1701

Join by meeting number

Meeting number (access code): 2743 595 2779
Meeting password: wKUTtMhM739

Tap to join from a mobile device (attendees only)

+353-1526-0058,,27435952779## Ireland Toll

+353-153-39982,,27435952779## Ireland Toll 2

Join by phone

+353-1526-0058 Ireland Toll

+353-153-39982 Ireland Toll 2

Global call-in numbers

Join from a video system or application

Dial 27435952779@irlgov.webex.com

You can also dial 62.109.219.4 and enter your meeting number.

Need help? Go to https://help.webex.com

From: DCEDIY IPSS Transition Team [redacted]
Sent: Monday 18 October 2021 15:4[redacted]

[redacted]

Subject: Documents available on FileCloud

Dear Programme Board members,

The documents for Thursday's meeting of the Programme Board are now available on FileCloud. In order to access these documents you must first register for a FileCloud account. A registration link will be sent around shortly to every Board member by the Secretariat, and a step-by guide is attached to this email to help you through the process. Once you have registered you will have access to view and download all documents that have been uploaded by the Secretariat to the Programme Board folder. The relevant documents for this meeting can be found in the 21 October folder.

Please note that FileCloud uses a Two-Factor Authentication system, meaning that every time you log in to your account you will need to enter a short numerical password that will be emailed to the address you register with. Should you have problems in registering for this account, please don't hesitate to contact the Secretariat at Programme.Board.Secretariat@equality.gov.ie.

Kind Regards,
Brendan Meighan

International Protection Accommodation Policy & Anti-Racism Policy

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Cúirt Montague, 7-11 Sráid Montague, Baile Átha Cliath 2 D02 FT96
Montague Court, 7-11 Montague Street, Dublin 2 D02 FT96

- Creating a FileCloud account:

    1. Follow the link emailed to you to create an account (Make sure you are using Chrome as your browser)
    2. Make sure to fill out the reCAPTCHA
    3. The link will bring you to the home page, which will show who has shared files with you – click on this
    4. If you have multiple folders shared with you, you can now choose which folder you want to view
    5. If you hover your cursor over the document you want, a tool bar appears which gives you the option to view and/or download
    6. You can choose “View” if you want to view the document while in File Cloud, or “Download” so that you have a copy available offline.

UCD Connect

Liam Thornton <liam.thornton@ucd.ie>

FOI-0106-2022-Liam-Thornton

Liam Thornton <liam.thornton@ucd.ie> 24 February 2022 at 14:43
To: Housing FOI <foi@housing.gov.ie>

For attention of **Aoife Carroll Strategic and Business Support Unit**

Dear Aoife,

Many thanks for getting in touch.

The request is clear and identifies very precisely what records are required. You only focus on the very first line of the request, and not the information which clarified the records I am seeking. For ease, I include the FOI request again, should the full request not have been passed onto you first time round:

> All records of the White Paper Implementation Working Group meetings attended by the Dept of Housing between 01 March 2021 and 23 February 2022.
>
> This can be restricted to:
>
> - Agendas of meetings
> - Papers/Memos attached to these meetings or completed after the meetings;
> - Minutes of these meetings.

I do not have any details on the number of meetings held for the White Paper Implementation Working Group, which would be information only the Dept of Housing has, but I do know it first met in May 2021 (according to Dáil debates). The Group was mentioned a number of times in the Dáil as responsible for housing /social protection issues in the implementation of the **Government White Paper on Ending Direct Provision**, so all I know of is the existence of the Working Group and their broad role as outlined to the Dáil.

The persons with policy responsibility for leading on Dept of Housing engagement with the White Paper Implementation Working Group would be readily identifiable to the Dept of Housing, and those persons would be the ones from whom the FOI records could be obtained with a search that would identify these records exceptionally quickly.

I'm on 086 345 0802 if you require further information, as there was no phone number included in your email signature.

Best wishes,
Liam

|Dr Liam Thornton | Associate Professor | School of Law, University College Dublin | E: liam.thornton@ucd.ie | W: www.liamthornton.ie | T:@LTLaw_

UCD Students can book an appointment during my office hours here.

Latest publications here.

On Thu, 24 Feb 2022 at 12:56, Housing FOI <foi@housing.gov.ie> wrote:

> Dear Mr. Thornton,
>
> I refer to the FOI request (below) that you submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage on 23/02/2022. The FOI request as it stands would be considered invalid.

FOI requests must contain sufficient particulars to enable the records sought to be identified as per Section 12(1)(b) of the 2014 Act –

12. (1) A person who wishes to exercise the right of access shall make a request, in writing or in such other form as may be determined, addressed to the head of the FOI body concerned for access to the record concerned—

(a) stating that the request is made under this Act,

(b) containing sufficient particulars in relation to the information concerned to enable the record to be identified by the taking of reasonable steps, and

(c) if the person requires such access to be given in a particular form or manner (being a form or manner referred to in section 17), specifying the form or manner of access.

The FOI Act also allows for the charging of fees in certain circumstances, and this is set out in Section 27 of the Act.

For the purposes of processing your request more efficiently and to reduce any potential search and retrieval fees that might be incurred, can you please provide sufficient particulars in relation to the following:

- You are requesting "*All records of the White Paper Implementation Working Group meetings attended by the Dept of Housing between 01 March 2021 and 23 February 2022*". As currently worded this is too broad. Can you specify the topic in which you are relating to?

You can re-submit your amended FOI request to: foi@housing.gov.ie or please feel free to contact me on the telephone number below if I can be of any further assistance.

Kind Regards,

Aoife Carroll
Strategic and Business Support Unit

——

An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta

Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Bóthar an Bhaile Nua, Loch Garman, Y35 AP90

Newtown Road, Wexford, Y35 AP90

——

www.tithiocht.gov.ie

www.housing.gov.ie

An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage

From: Liam Thornton <liam.thornton@ucd.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 23 February 2022 13:00
To: Housing FOI <foi@housing.gov.ie>
Subject: Re: FOI Request: Records for White Paper Implementation Working Group

CAUTION: This eMail originated from outside your organisation and the BTS Managed Desktop service. Do not click on any links or open any attachments unless you recognise the sender or are expecting the email and know that the content is safe. If you are in any doubt, please contact the OGCIO IT Service Desk at help.it@per.gov.ie

Dear Dept of Housing,

I request the following records under the Freedom of Information Act 2014.

All records of the White Paper Implementation Working Group meetings attended by the Dept of Housing between 01 March 2021 and 23 February 2022.

This can be restricted to:

- Agendas of meetings
- Papers/Memos attached to these meetings or completed after the meetings;
- Minutes of these meetings.

The records may be provided electronically in original formatting to this email address.

I look forward to completion of this FOI request within the statutory timeframes,

Best wishes,

Liam

|Dr Liam Thornton | Associate Professor | School of Law, University College Dublin | E: liam.thornton@ucd.ie | W: www.liamthornton.ie | T:@LTLaw_

UCD Students can book an appointment during my office hours here.

> **Latest publications here.**

From:
Sent: Monday 18 October 2021 15:46
To:
Subject: meighanb has shared files with you

meighanb has shared files with you.

Programme Board to oversee the transition to the new International Protection Support Service

at https://equality.fs.gov.ie/ui/core/index.html?shownewaccount=1.

To access these shared files, you need to create a new account with ema to access the shared files.

You received this message because you signed up for an account at FileCloud.
Unsubscribe: https://equality.fs.gov.ie/core/unsubscribe?emailid=paul.benson@housing.gov.ie
Powered by FileCloud

Cumann Lucht Bainistíochta Contae agus Cathrach
County and City Management Association

Implementation of the White Paper ending Direct Provision

Proposal from the CCMA on Model for Distribution

CCMA Housing, Building and Land Use Committee

19th July 2021

Table of Contents

1.0 Introduction 3
2.0 Context 3
2.1 White Paper on International Protection 3
2.1.1 Role of Housing Agency and Provision of Accommodation 4
Role of Local Authority 4
Current Local Authority Role 5
Methodology 6
Proposed Model for Distribution 6

Final

Introduction

The CCMA Housing, Building, and Land Use (HBLU) committee has drafted the following paper that sets out a proposed model of distribution for the actions assigned to Local Authorities as mentioned in the White Paper on International Protection ending Direct Provision. The CCMA looks forward to working and collaborating with all Agencies to give effect to the White Paper but wishes to highlight that without significant additional permanent resources for the Interagency Roles the success of the new approach will not materialise. The required resources is the subject of a separate business case.

Context

White Paper on International Protection

The White Paper on International Protection was considered and approved by Government in February 2021 and sets out the Government's approach to fulfilling the commitment in the Programme for Government to end Direct Provision and to replace it with 'a new International Protection accommodation policy centred on a not-for-profit approach.' The White Paper sets out a new model which is distinctively different from the system currently in place. The new model proposes a two-phase approach to accommodating applicants for International Protection, with integration into the community and society at the forefront of its model, that will support applicants in health, housing, employment, and education both in the Reception and Integration Centres (Phase One) and in the community (Phase Two).

The White Paper anticipates that Ireland will receive an increased number of applicants for International Protection on an ongoing basis due to the persisting international pressures. The proposed white paper model is being designed to accommodate approx. 3,500 applicants annually. The aim is to enable applicants to live in accommodation located in the community as soon as possible.

The White Paper outlines that in Phase One, the applicant will be accommodated in a Reception and Integration Centre for four months and that the focus will be on identifying needs, defining pathways, and linking applicants to appropriate services. All applicants will undertake the English language and orientation programme designed to support better integration during Phase One. The focus in Phase Two will be to promote community living. The model proposes that in this phase all accommodation will be own-door, self-contained houses or apartments for families, while single people are to be housed in either own-door or own-room accommodation. The aim is for this accommodation to be within the community, with the appropriate supports available to the applicants.

The process of implementing change is planned to take place between February 2021 and 31 December 2024. It is intended that the new model will be fully operational by December 2024. It is proposed that one of the main tasks in 2021 for Local Authorities will be the strengthening

of the existing inter-agency working group structures from the IRPP to oversee community engagement and integration.

Role of Housing Agency and Provision of Accommodation

Under the White Paper, it is proposed that the Housing Agency will partner with and support DCEDIY in addressing the housing needs of applicants for International Protection. The Housing Agency's support will be provided through the provision of advice on sourcing, delivering and management of housing and accommodation, in addition to guidance relating to other support needs for individuals and families.

The Housing Agency may also provide direct assistance with the delivery of housing, accommodation and technical support on projects as required. Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) or equivalent not-for-profit housing bodies will be tasked with providing housing for families and will be responsible in the management of these tenancies. This housing will be separate to the social housing that the AHBs are currently providing for LAs. The AHBs will source and finance housing to support the white paper implementation separately, with support from the Housing Agency.

The White Paper envisages that the housing sourced will be standard housing units, which will be provided by AHBs, either as individual rooms, units or in clusters. Another avenue that is being proposed to be used in the provision of accommodation is that of Urban Renewal Schemes, where the owners of vacant properties, including commercial properties, in areas designated for urban renewal will be incentivised to make their properties available as own-room accommodation for International Protection applicants.

Role of Local Authority

Model for Distribution

The White Paper outlines that the role of the Local Authority is primarily involved in community integration, service supports and to assist those who have received status and are eligible for social housing support to move from the Reception and Integration Centre into mainstream accommodation within the communities. The LAs will also have to consider how those without status can also be integrated into the community, essentially giving LAs a new and expanded role for a cohort of people who are not actually on our Housing Lists.

This will be provided either through LA/AHB tenancy or through private tenancies. The CCMA model for distribution outlines the location and number of applicants to be accommodated in each county. The distribution model proposed by CCMA considers those with status and those without status and is based on a simple model of distribution based on population.

It should be noted that according to the White Paper, the demand led nature of the system will be a constant challenge. Increases in the number of applicants for International Protection above the 3,500 assumed, arising from factors such as the re-opening of travel routes, changing trends, etc., have the potential to place the new model under considerable strain and impact negatively on processing times and accommodation capacity.

Integration and Community Supports

Integration is a key component of the White Paper. It states that Inter-agency working groups will be established in every county to coordinate the delivery of services to applicants in Phase Two accommodation. The White Paper states that where accommodation options for applicants in specific counties do not include tailored supports provided by not-for-profit organisations, a similar system of support utilised under IRPP1 to appoint resettlement workers and intercultural workers in LAs will be utilised. A new permanent system will be established in each LA whereby resettlement workers and intercultural workers will be appointed to act as caseworkers for applicants with lower support needs.

Unlike the current process a new consultation process will be undertaken with relevant communities when locating a Reception and Integration Centre in a particular location. The inter-agency working group will provide the framework for notifying public authorities and community structures when deciding to build, acquire or lease Phase Two accommodation in a particular area. The new model for accommodating asylum seekers, will need the same structures currently used by IRPP but significantly augmented to coordinate the resettlement of refugees at local level and use these as a basis for coordinating services to applicants under this policy.

IRPP currently operates a system of inter-agency working groups in each county to coordinate the delivery of services to refugees being resettled in that county. An inter-agency working group will be extended in each county for the implementation of the white paper, an approach that the CCMA strongly supports, and will be chaired by the Local Authority, to coordinate services to asylum seekers. The inter-agency working group will include multiple stakeholders, including representatives of the Local Authority, Education and Training Board, Education Welfare Service, HSE, Intreo and An Garda Síochána, Local Development Companies and other Community Development Organisations where relevant.

The new accommodation model will include a focus on community engagement, using existing community structures and providing funding to support specific community integration initiatives to integrate applicants into those communities, once arrived. The inter-agency working group will provide the framework for notifying community structures of the arrival of specific groups of applicants. DCEDIY will collaborate with the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) to ensure that local programmes which promote the integration of applicants for International Protection are delivered to a consistent standard of quality.

Current Local Authority Role

In the CCMA response to the Advisory Group Paper in 2020, the CCMA advised that full wrap around services are required, with input needed from all service providers, for any new system to be successful. The CCMA notes that these issues were considered by the White Paper and welcomes our involvement in assisting these persons integrate into the community. All stakeholders, as mentioned previously, are required to integrate applicants into the community (e.g. education, language support, other welfare supports).

It should be noted that in addition to an accommodation requirement for 3,500 asylum seekers per annum in the community, the new approach envisages 6 state owned reception centres which can accommodate 2,000 persons in which new arrivals will spend four months before moving to the accommodation in the community. The CCMA are not aware of the locations of the state-owned reception centres, that are proposed by DCEDIY, and this is something that needs to be considered when adjustments to the model for distribution are called for.

Currently Local Authorities are not adequately equipped to deal with the level of supports that are required. They do not have the capacity to meet the needs of the most vulnerable with the required supports. The view of the CCMA is that integration into local communities from the earliest stage in the process is required and it is imperative that the applicants in the process get easy access to the supports available (e.g. social, health and educational) where appropriate/required as outlined in Phase One.

Methodology

Proposed Model for Distribution

The model for the White Paper implementation being proposed by the CCMA reverts to a similar model that was agreed in 2019 where the distribution across the country was based on the Census 2016 local authority population size, namely, the total number of asylum seekers, divided on the basis of population across the local authorities. This model does not account for any specific population growth in certain LAs, except for the Cork City boundary extension in 2019.

This model is based on the proposed number of annual applicants of 3,500, divided on the basis of population across the local authorities. The model sees a weighting that allocates asylum seekers to LAs based-on population size. While it is envisaged that approx. 1,200 applicants will be granted status annually and will be eligible for social housing supports, the remaining 2,300 applicants will still require assistance in the community for the periods that they await either the result of their application or if they are appealing. The proposed model will assist DCEDIY and the Housing agency to commence identifying units within counties that would be suitable. It should be noted that persons seeking international protection do not have to reside in accommodation centres provided by DCEDIY, some stay with family or friends in the community while their application for international protection is being processed.

It should be noted that the proposed model for distribution for the White Paper implementation may change depending on the location of the 6 Reception and Integration centres. Additionally, DCEDIY has indicated that they would like to see some housing addressed through re-development and re-use of existing vacant or underutilised accommodation. Under Project Ireland 2040 and the National Development Plan, it is proposed that 87 towns across the State are identified for urban regeneration. This presents an opportunity for LAs to direct accommodation provision in a way that compliments the Town Centres first approach and assists with ongoing attempts to address vacancy and dereliction.

The subsequent table shows the overall total allocated per LA, providing the breakdown of how these figures were apportioned. This will assist local authorities and all stakeholders in planning the accommodation supports for the implementation of the white paper.
The subsequent table shows the overall total allocated per LA.

Local Authority	**White Paper Model for Distribution - Annually**
Carlow County Council	**42**
Cavan County Council	**56**
Clare County Council	**87**
Cork City Council	**155**
Cork County Council	**244**
Donegal County Council	**117**
Dublin City Council	**407**
Dun Laoghaire - Rathdown County Council	**160**
Fingal County Council	**218**
Galway City Council	**58**
Galway County Council	**132**
Kerry County Council	**109**
Kildare County Council	**163**
Kilkenny County Council	**73**
Laois County Council	**62**
Leitrim County Council	**24**
Limerick City and County Council	**144**
Longford County Council	**30**
Louth County Council	**94**
Mayo County Council	**96**
Meath County Council	**143**
Monaghan County Council	**45**
Offaly County Council	**57**
Roscommon County Council	**47**
Sligo County Council	**48**
South Dublin County Council	**205**
Tipperary County Council	**118**
Waterford City and County Council	**86**
Westmeath County Council	**65**
Wexford County Council	**110**
Wicklow County Council	**105**
Totals	**3,500**

Final

Final

From: DCEDIY IPSS Transition Team [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday 19 October 2021 11:44
To: [redacted]

Subject: Documents for information

Dear Programme Board members,

Please find attached a finalised version of the Terms of Reference of the Programme Board and a copy of the approved minutes of the Programme Board's first meeting in July. Please note that these documents will not be discussed at Thursday's meeting, though if anyone would like to raise any issues or queries about these documents they can email the Secretariat at [redacted]Programme.Board.Secretariat@equality.gov.ie.

Also attached for information are a copy of the allocation key for the new model that has been agreed with the CCMA and a paper on the parameters for Phase Two accommodation that has been prepared by the Housing Agency. All of these files are also available for download via the FileCloud system and can be found in the 'documents for information' sub-folder of the 21 October section.

Kind Regards,
Brendan Meighan

International Protection Accommodation Policy & Anti-Racism Policy

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Cúirt Montague, 7-11 Sráid Montague, Baile Átha Cliath 2 D02 FT96
Montague Court, 7-11 Montague Street, Dublin 2 D02 FT96

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Ref: 210923(2)/PBIPSS/02/ToR revised draft v2

Programme Board to oversee the transition to the new International Protection Support Service

Draft Terms of Reference

Statement of Purpose

To support the State in its commitment to end the current system of Direct Provision and replace it with a new international protection accommodation and supports system based on a not-for-profit approach, grounded in the principles of human rights, respect for diversity and respect for privacy and family life, as outlined in *A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a new International Protection Support Service*.

To this end, oversee and advise on the development and implementation of the new model, including the development of an effective governance model. ~~appoint a Risk Committee from among its members to oversee the management of risks according to an agreed framework; and make recommendations to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.~~

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Advice

1. Provide guidance and expertise on the development and implementation of the new model of accommodation and supports for international protection applicants, as outlined in *A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a new International Protection Support Service,* to the DCEDIY International Protection Support Service (IPSS) Transition Team and to Departments and Agencies with responsibility for implementing the transition to the new model;
2. Contribute to the development of and annually review the implementation plans for the transition to the new model of accommodation and supports for international protection applicants.

Information Exchange

3. Act as an information sharing mechanism between Departments, Agencies, and other Non-Governmental Organisations with responsibility for implementing the transition to the new model of accommodation and supports for international

protection applicants, including linking the IPSS Transition Team with key relationships, experts and supports;

4. Meet annually with representatives of inter-agency working groups to facilitate the exchange of good practice and to identify ways in which coordination can be improved at local level;
5. Develop and implement a communications/transparency strategy with the Department for all communications relating to the work of the Board and the outside world;
6. Meet regularly with the Programme Board set up by the Department of Justice to ensure effective coordination and timely information exchange between these two complementary reform processes.

Monitoring

~~7. Appoint a Risk Committee from among its members to oversee the management of risks according to an agreed framework. Risks will also be identified, mitigated and managed through DCEDIY's existing risk management system;~~

~~8.~~7. Monitor the transition to the new model (to enable this monitoring, information will be supplied to the Board by Departments and Agencies with responsibility for implementing the transition. Information will also be supplied by the Local Authority Inter-Agency Working Groups that will co-ordinate the delivery of the programme at local level);

8. Input to the development of a governance model which will oversee the delivery of integrated, high-quality, rights-based services, with a particular focus on children's rights, on dignity, respect and privacy; and on access to the right kind of information and support at all stages of the process, as stated in *A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a new International Protection Support Service*.

~~9. where children's rights are at the forefront of the development and delivery of the new model, as stated in *A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a new International Protection Support Service*, and which will oversee the delivery of integrated, high quality rights based services;~~

~~10.~~9. Appoint a Risk Committee from among its members to oversee the management of risks according to an agreed framework. Risks will also be identified, mitigated and managed through DCEDIY's existing risk management system;

~~11.~~10. Agree the progress and performance indicators against which it will monitor the transition to the new model;

~~12.~~11. Provide twice-yearly monitoring reports to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, these reports to be published on the DCEDIY website.

Commented [BM1]: Discussion was unclear on this issue. We would welcome any views on whether the proposed changes are sufficient and accurately reflect the Programme Board discussion.

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DRAFT

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Ref: 210923(2)/PBIPSS/01 approved minutes 210729

Programme Board to oversee the transition to the new International Protection Support Service

Approved Minutes

Date:	29 July 2021
Time:	10:00am
Location:	Video Conference
In Attendance:	Fergal Lynch (Chair), Carol Baxter, Paul Benson, Patricia Doherty, Nick Henderson, Rosemary Kunene, Brendan Lenihan, John O'Connor, Enda O'Neill, Jim Walsh, Tanya Ward. Minister Roderic O'Gorman, Aisling Cusack, Claire Feeney, Paula Quinn, Eoin Wilson. Secretariat: Brendan Meighan, Ciara O'Connor, Edwina Steele (DCEDIY)
Apologies:	

Ref	Key Decision / Discussion Points
1.	**Introduction from the Minister** • The Minister welcomed participants and thanked them for their willingness to sit on the Programme Board.
2.	**Introductions from Programme Board members and the Terms of Reference** • Programme Board members introduced themselves and provided a brief summary of their experience to date. • It was agreed that the Terms of Reference should state that the work of the Programme Board will reflect the implementation of *A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a New International Protection Support Service*; and include reference to governance structures and a Risk Committee.

Ref	Key Decision / Discussion Points
	• It was agreed to wait until after 23 September meeting, to share a final version of the implementation plan with the 17 NGOs who had nominated the former resident and two NGO board members. • It was clarified that a Board member recently joining the Irish Refugee Council did not constitute a conflict of interest. • It was suggested that a young person with lived experience of International Protection accommodation could join the Programme Board. **Actions Agreed:** • It was agreed that there should be regular briefings and updates shared between the Programme Board and the Programme Board established by the Department of Justice. • It was agreed that there should be further discussion of the Terms of Reference at the Board's next meeting. **Action Owners:** Secretariat and Programme Board
3.	**Presentation on the content of the White Paper** • The Board received a brief presentation on the content of *A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a New International Protection Support Service* and the policy behind it.
4.	**Presentations from the Housing Agency and the International Protection Support Service (IPSS) Transition Team on progress to date since the publication of White Paper** • The Head of the IPSS Transition Team briefed the Board on progress to date since the publication of the White Paper, including the initial draft of the High-Level Implementation Plan as circulated to the Board • It was noted that, ahead of the Board's next meeting, papers will be provided to Programme Board members on the following topics: o Potential ownership models for the accommodation sites used under the new system; o Potential funding models for Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs); o Feedback received from the Board on the initial draft of the High-Level Implementation Plan; o A consideration of the three implementation options contained in the implementation plan. • The Housing Agency presented to the Board the Housing Agency's progress to date as DCEDIY's implementation partners on accommodation.

Ref	Key Decision / Discussion Points

	• It was noted that the Housing Agency is working on 11 advice papers for the Programme Board and that two of these are currently being progressed:
	  ○ An advice paper on existing funding schemes for AHBs;
	  ○ An advice paper setting out the draft process and procedure on sourcing accommodation.
	
	• The Chair thanked the presenters.
	
	Actions Agreed:
	• It was agreed that the Secretariat would share the presentations with the Programme Board members.
	
	Action Owners: IPSS Transition Team and Secretariat

5.	**Questions** **Actions Agreed:** • It was agreed that a paper outlining the overall governance architecture for the implementation of the White Paper would be drawn up and discussed at the next meeting. • It was agreed that the implementation plan would be examined in more detail at the next meeting of the Programme Board, and Board members would provide feedback to the Secretariat by 1 September 2021. • It was agreed that the pending policy implementation paper on International Protection payments would include a review of payments for Phase One as well as Phase Two. • It was noted that the Secretariat will engage directly with Programme Board members on the supports that will be offered to children and young people as part of the new model. • It was agreed that a Project Initiation Document (PID) will be drawn up and circulated for the next meeting, which will outline the goals of the project and how they can be measured. • It was agreed that the values and principles that underpin the new system are very important and should be provided in a separate document to all Board members. • The importance attached by the Government to the implementation of the White Paper recommendations was emphasised. **Action Owners:** IPSS Transition Team and Secretariat
6.	**Working Arrangements for the Programme Board** **Actions Agreed:**

Ref	Key Decision / Discussion Points
	• It was agreed that papers will be circulated to Board members at least a week in advance of a meeting. • It was agreed that documents should be circulated in Microsoft Word format. • It was also agreed that the slides for scheduled presentations would be shared in advance of the meeting. • It was agreed that the Secretariat would find out if DCEDIY could provide one central web portal where relevant papers and documents would be available for all Board members to access. **Action Owners:** Secretariat

From: DCEDIY IPSS Transition Team
Sent: Monday 1 November 202[redacted]
To: [redacted]

Subject: Finalised Terms of Reference

Dear Programme Board members,

Please find attached the final, PDF version of the Board's Terms of Reference for your information.

Kind Regards,
Brendan

From: DCEDIY Programme Board Secretariat
Sent: Tuesday 19 October 2021 11:44
To: [redacted]

Subject: Documents for information

Dear Programme Board members,

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Programme Board to oversee the transition to the new International Protection Support Service

Finalised Terms of Reference

Statement of Purpose

To support the State in its commitment to end the current system of Direct Provision and replace it with a new international protection accommodation and supports system based on a not-for-profit approach, grounded in the principles of human rights, respect for diversity and respect for privacy and family life, as outlined in *A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a new International Protection Support Service*.

To this end, oversee and advise on the development and implementation of the new model, including the development of an effective governance model.

Advice

1. Provide guidance and expertise on the development and implementation of the new model of accommodation and supports for international protection applicants, as outlined in *A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a new International Protection Support Service,* to the DCEDIY International Protection Support Service (IPSS) Transition Team and to Departments and Agencies with responsibility for implementing the transition to the new model;

2. Contribute to the development of and annually review the implementation plans for the transition to the new model of accommodation and supports for international protection applicants.

Information Exchange

3. Act as an information sharing mechanism between Departments, Agencies, and other Non-Governmental Organisations with responsibility for implementing the transition to the new model of accommodation and supports for international protection applicants, including linking the IPSS Transition Team with key relationships, experts and supports;

4. Meet annually with representatives of inter-agency working groups to facilitate the exchange of good practice and to identify ways in which coordination can be improved at local level;

5. Develop and implement a communications/transparency strategy with the Department for all communications relating to the work of the Board and the outside world;

6. Meet regularly with the Programme Board set up by the Department of Justice to ensure effective coordination and timely information exchange between these two complementary reform processes.

Monitoring

7. Monitor the transition to the new model (to enable this monitoring, information will be supplied to the Board by Departments and Agencies with responsibility for implementing the transition. Information will also be supplied by the Local Authority Inter-Agency Working Groups that will co-ordinate the delivery of the programme at local level);

8. Input to the development of a governance model which will oversee the delivery of integrated, high-quality, rights-based services, with a particular focus on children's rights, on dignity, respect and privacy; and on access to the right kind of information and support at all stages of the process, as stated in *A White Paper to End Direct Provision and to Establish a new International Protection Support Service,*

9. Appoint a Risk Committee from among its members to oversee the management of risks according to an agreed framework. Risks will also be identified, mitigated and managed through DCEDIY's existing risk management system;

10. Agree the progress and performance indicators against which it will monitor the transition to the new model;

11. Provide twice-yearly monitoring reports to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, these reports to be published on the DCEDIY website.

From: DCEDIY IPSS Transition Team
Sent: Wednesday 10 November 2021 09:55
To: [redacted]

Subject: 18 Nov meeting will be online

Dear Programme Board members,

Due to the rising number of Covid cases, the Programme Board meeting scheduled for 18 November will be held online. A link to the meeting as well as the meeting documents will issue in the coming days.

Kind Regards,
Brendan Meighan

International Protection Accommodation Policy & Anti-Racism Policy

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Cúirt Montague, 7-11 Sráid Montague, Baile Átha Cliath 2 D02 FT96
Montague Court, 7-11 Montague Street, Dublin 2 D02 FT96

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Ref: 211118 (4)/Agenda PBIPSS

Programme Board to oversee the transition to the new International Protection Support Service

Agenda for 18 November 2021, 10:00 to 12:00

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1. Minutes of 21 October 2021

2. Updates from Chair

3. Implementation Plan

4. Integration Supports Policy Paper

5. Ownership Options Sub-Group Update

6. Update on the progress of reforms in the Department of Justice

7. A.O.B.

8. Next meeting is Thursday 16 December 2021, 10 to 12:00

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Ref: 211118(4)_01_Draft Minutes PBIPSS

Programme Board to oversee the transition to the new International Protection Support Service

Date:	21 October 2021
Time:	10:00am
Location:	Video Conference
In Attendance:	Fergal Lynch (Chair), Carol Baxter, Paul Benson, David Delaney Patricia Doherty, Nick Henderson, Bob Jordan, Rosemary Kunene, Brendan Lenihan, John O'Connor, Enda O'Neill, Jim Walsh, Tanya Ward. Úna Ní Dhubhghaill, Paula Quinn, Tom Sheppard. Secretariat: Michelle Donohoe, Maria Hodson, Brendan Meighan, Edwina Steele (DCEDIY)
Apologies:	

Ref	Key Decision / Discussion Points
	The Chair welcomed everyone to the third meeting of the Programme Board. Bob Jordan from the Housing Agency was welcomed. The Chair also introduced Tom Sheppard, Minister O'Gorman's press advisor, who attended for part of the meeting.
1.	**Minutes of 23 September 2021 and Terms of Reference** • The minutes from 23 September 2021 were agreed. • Revised Terms of Reference of the Programme Board were reviewed, and it was confirmed that they would be finalised by email on Friday 22 October **Actions Agreed:** • Any amendments to the Terms of Reference to be submitted to the Secretariat by 22 October. • It was suggested that the Terms of Reference should be communicated to stakeholders in the sector so that the Programme Board's role is clear. SG agreed that the PB ToR would be published on DCEDIY's website.

	Action Owner: Secretariat
2.	**IPSS Budget Update** • The Chair outlined details of the funding allocated to DCEDIY for implementation of the White Paper. He noted the commitment of the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER) to financing the transition to the new international protection system, including providing for additional capital funding in 2022 should this be required. • The Head of the IPSS Transition Team briefed the Board on the budget update document. • It was clarified that the Integration Support Fund is separate to the Community Integration Fund and that it will be focussed on International Protection applicants only. **Actions Agreed:** • It was agreed that information from the budget update document would be included in the next iteration of the implementation plan. **Action Owner:** IPSS Transition Team
3.	**Project Initiation Document** • The Head of the IPSS Transition Team briefed the Board on the Project Initiation Document (PID). • It was noted that it would be valuable to get input on the PID from the new project manager who is joining the IPSS Transition Team. • It was noted that the transition involves a programme of discrete projects, some simultaneous. Critical questions would include the scope of the programme and identification of the key objectives. • The Programme Board is in place to oversee discrete projects, its mandate in the first instance is to deliver on the White Paper; however, it was confirmed that this mandate would be kept under review. • It was noted that the new Reception and Integration Centres will be very important to the provision of healthcare for applicants. • It was suggested that a scoping paper be prepared on the educational needs of children arriving in the country. The Children's Rights Alliance offered to assist the IPSS Transition Team with this. • The Chair commented that time will be dedicated to considering the support services. **Actions Agreed:** • The project manager of the IPSS Transition Team will provide input on the PID.

	• The Secretariat will communicate with the Children's Rights Alliance regarding the scoping paper on educational support services for children. **Action Owners:** IPSS Transition Team and the Secretariat
4.	**International Protection Payments Policy Paper** • The Head of the Policy Team gave an update on the International Protection Payments Policy Paper. It was noted that there is a considerable amount of work required to get the payment system established and that an appropriate legal basis would be required. • It was noted that the time needed to process Exceptional Needs Payments for applicants can vary significantly. • In respect to the IP Child Payment, a question was raised regarding the eligibility criteria. A clear set of rules would be needed for when a payment ends to ensure that no one falls into poverty. • It was noted that individuals and families will have to pay differential rent under the new system and it was suggested that this point should be included in the policy paper. • It was suggested that certain housing-related payments that are currently administered by DSP, e.g. Furniture Payments for moving into a new house, should also be made available to applicants. • It was suggested that the Daily Expenses Allowance be increased and subject to regular review, as was recommended in the Report of the Advisory Group on the Provision of Support including Accommodation to Persons in the International Protection Process. This payment should be reviewed to determine if this amount is sufficient. • It was suggested that it would be preferable for DCEDIY to design the methodology for the payments and then pass the whole function over to the Department of Social Protection. • It was suggested that payment should be assessed independently, with an awareness that some people engage in casual employment and the system should be designed to allow people to work and not lose their benefits. • It was suggested that the International Organisation for Migration and other bodies who work on voluntary returns should be consulted so that the end of the protection process following a negative decision is thought about strategically. • It was noted that the receipt of the income support payment and the ability to work greatly benefit the process of integration. • It was noted that applicants receiving the payments should receive supports to enhance their financial literacy. • It was suggested that instead of giving residents in centres points to buy food in centre-based shops, they should be given a card that they can use in a shop in the local community to encourage independence and promote

	self-esteem. In addition Reception and Integration Centres needed to be located near a good quality supermarket. **Actions Agreed:** • Points made by Programme Board will be considered by the IPSS Policy Unit. • Further work will be carried out on the assessment of the value of the payments. **Action Owner:** Policy Team
5.	**Governance Model** • The Head of the IPSS Transition Team gave an update on the revised Governance Model document. • It was noted that the communications plan and stakeholder engagement plan would need to be comprehensive and innovative. It was observed that there should be an appetite for risk taking to engage with the implementation partners. **Actions Agreed:** • The IPSS Transition Team will consider the communications plan and stakeholder engagement plan in more detail. **Action Owner:** IPSS Transition Team
6 & 7.	**Subgroups: Ownership Subgroup and Risk Committee/Ownership Model** • It was agreed to appoint the ownership and risk sub-groups as previously proposed. The Ownership Subgroup will comprises John O'Connor (chair), Paul Benson, Nick Henderson and Tanya Ward. • The Risk Committee will comprise Brendan Lenihan (chair), Patricia Doherty, John O'Connor and Enda O'Neill. • The Chair of the Ownership Subgroup gave an update following their initial meeting. This meeting was focused on the financial aspects of the ownership model and included the review of a cost benefit analysis carried out by the Housing Agency on the ownership options. • A further meeting of the sub-group is scheduled for the 1 November and it will be attended by representatives from the Housing Alliance and the Irish Council for Social Housing to provide the perspective of the Approved Housing Body sector. • It was noted that two more meetings of the sub-group were expected before it reported back to the Programme Board. • The Chair of the Risk Committee gave an update following their initial meeting.

	• It was noted that the function of the Risk Committee will be oversight rather than authorship and that it will be in for the duration of the implementation project. • DCEDIY's risk management framework needs to be utilised. The Risk Committee have offered to do a short workshop with the IPSS Transition Team. **Actions Agreed:** • A workshop will be organised with the IPSS Transition Team and the Risk Committee. **Action Owners:** IPSS Transition Team, the Housing Agency, the Secretariat
8.	**AOB** • The Department of Justice provided an update on its work to speed up the processing system for international protection. Among the main points noted were: modernisations in processing, including a multi-language questionnaire; the IPO are processing around 80 interviews weekly, and it is hoped increase this to 100 per week soon; the backlog of some 450/500 people requiring call backs has been reduced to about to 100 people. • It was noted that Balseskin is currently close to capacity and that DCEDIY are working with the Department of Social Protection to have more rapid processing in payments. DCEDIY are also working with the HSE to get medical cards to ensure that people can move quickly through Balseskin. • It was noted that the International Protection Office (IPO) now employs a system whereby interpreters for languages that are commonly spoken by applicants are available onsite or are on-call in case they are needed. This has reduced the number of interviews that are postponed due to a lack of interpretation. • It was noted that IPAS had previously convened a working group on transitioning applicants with status out of IPAs accommodation. It was suggested that IPAS should reconvene this group. • It was suggested that disseminating information to stakeholders would be a good idea as there is a huge amount of work being done around direct provision reform. An event could be organised on the anniversary of publication of the White Paper to impart information on to bodies in the sector. • It was also suggested that a private briefing with Opposition spokespersons would be sensible. • It was noted that the Programme Board are required to publish monitoring reports twice a year. These updates would be agreed upon by the Programme Board and could be the basis of an update report that the Minister brings to Government.

	Actions Agreed: • The Department of Justice update will be a standing item on the agenda. • The transition working group will be considered in conjunction with IPAS. • A monitoring report will be prepared to be agreed by the Programme Board prior to publication. **Action Owners:** IPSS Transition Team, IPAS, the Secretariat.
9.	**Next meeting** • The next meeting will be held on 18 November 2021. **Actions Agreed:** • It will be confirmed over the coming days if the next meeting is to be online or in person. **Action Owner:** Secretariat

From: DCEDIY IPSS Transition Team
Sent: Friday 12 November 2021 12:26

[redacted]

Subject: Programme Board Documents

Dear Programme Board members,

Please find attached the documents for the next meeting of the Programme Board, which will take place next Thursday, 18 November from 10:00 to 12:00. These documents have also been uploaded to the FileCloud folder for your convenience. A link to the meeting, which will take place online, will issue shortly.

Kind Regards,
Brendan Meighan

International Protection Accommodation Policy & Anti-Racism Policy

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Cúirt Montague, 7-11 Sráid Montague, Baile Átha Cliath 2 D02 FT96
Montague Court, 7-11 Montague Street, Dublin 2 D02 FT96

From: Paula Quinn (DCEDIY) <
Sent: Thursday 25 November 2021 09:21

Subject: [redacted]wnership Sub-Group Draft Report

Dear Board Members

Please see attached the draft report with recommendations for the ownership model. Please note the Housing Agency are still refining the figures of the cost benefit analysis and when they have updated figures I will amend the document.

I would appreciate if the report can be reviewed and you revert to me with any feedback. If you could come back by close of business on Monday 29th November. If I don't receive any feedback by that date it will be assumed that you are happy with the report.

It is intended that this report will be presented to the rest of the Programme Board at their next meeting on the 16th December.

Any questions at all please come back to me.

Kind Regards
Paula

Paula Quinn
International Protection Support Service Transition Team
T [redacted]

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Dept. of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais,
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality,
Disability, Integration and Youth

From: Paula Quinn (DCEDIY)
Sent: Monday 29 November 2021 12:55
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Ownership Sub-Group Draft Report

Dear Board Members
Just a reminder if you have any feedback or comments on the attached report can you please provide them by close of business today.
Many thanks.

Kind Regards
Paula

Paula Quinn
International Protection Support Service Transition Team
T [redacted]

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Dept. of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais,
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality,
Disability, Integration and Youth

From: Paula Quinn (DCEDIY)
Sent: Thursday 25 November 2021 09:21
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Ownership Sub-Group Draft Report

Dear Board Members

White Paper Implementation

Ownership Sub-Group

Meeting Agenda

Date and Time	**1st November @ 3pm**
Location	Webex

Agenda Items
1. **Agree minutes of last meeting**
2. **Discussion with Representatives from the Housing Alliance and the Irish Council for Social Housing on Approved Housing Bodies approach to managing and maintaining social housing properties**
3. **Update on Ownership Model Cost Benefit Analysis**
4. **Next Steps**

White Paper Implementation

Ownership Sub-Group

Meeting Agenda

Date and Time	**11th November @ 9.30am**
Location	Webex

Agenda Items
1. **Agree minutes of last meeting**
2. **Discussion on draft report and recommendations from the sub-group**
3. **Other issues identified for referral**
4. **Next Steps**