

**MEETING OF THE COURTS SERVICE BOARD**  
**1<sup>st</sup> November 2021**

**Minutes & Redacted minutes of meeting of 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

A number of amendments to the minutes were proposed with updated minutes to be circulated before the next meeting of the Board.

**Family Law Committee – Report 40/2021**

Ms. Kiernan spoke on this report and outlined the changes which had taken place in the Committee since it had been reconstituted earlier in the year.

**Audit and Risk Committee – Report 41/2021**

Ms. Deirdre Kiely spoke on this report which was an update to the Board on the last meeting of the A&R Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2021 and matters arising from that meeting.

**Financial Report – Report 42/2021**

Mr. Cleere spoke on this report which had been presented to the Finance Committee at the meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> October, and went through the main highlights including the Financial Position at 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2021, the Budgetary Review, National Development Plan 2021-2030, the Modernisation Programme, C&AG Audit of 2020 Appropriation Account, and Court Funds.

**Estimates – Report 43/2021**

Mr. Cleere went through this report on funding for 2022 following the Minister for Public Expenditure & Reform Budget Day announcement on the 12<sup>th</sup> October. The report high-lighted that Total Gross Funding had increased by €5.451m (3%) compared to our baseline funding for 2021. It was further noted that the income target (which is primarily made up of courts fees) had been maintained at 2021 levels.

Mr Cleere informed the Board that the additional funding was very welcome, particular for current expenditure, however as previously advised it didn't provide funding for sustainability and site acquisition. Accordingly the carryover being sought from 2021 to 2022 assumed even greater importance.

**Risk Management Report – Report 50/2021**

Mr. Cleere also spoke on this report which outlines at a high level the main features and progress of the Corporate risk Register for 2021. There continues to be 19 corporate risks

with the following profile; 4 high, 14 medium and 1 low. Mr. Cleere went through the progress reported on across all categories and directorates

**CEO Quarterly Report – Report 44/2021 and Quarterly update on Corporate Business Plan – Report 45/2021**

Ms. Denning spoke on these reports which reflect the position of the Courts Service in relation to the Corporate Business Plan and levels of activity in all areas in Quarter 3.

**ICT Strategy – Report 47/2021**

The Chief Information Officer, Mr. Owen Harrison, joined the meeting and spoke on this report where he outlined the approach to creating the strategy including the extensive consultations that took place together with the 42 Actions contained in the Strategy. Discussions centred on the Strategy, Cyber Security and a new Data Strategy which is due to be before the Board in January 2022.

**Roscommon Courthouse – Report 46/2021**

Ms. Denning spoke on this report which was seeking approval from the Board to take into account the increased costs associated with a lease of a premises in Roscommon to accommodate multi-defendant Court Trials for Roscommon and the general Midlands area.

After some discussion, the Board approved the proposal at the higher cost.

**IPA effectiveness Review**

**- Self Evaluation forms – Report 48/2021**

This report will be discussed at the meeting of the 6<sup>th</sup> December