

## Minutes of the Courts Service Board

17<sup>th</sup> January 2022

A Quorum was reached.

### 1. Minutes & Redacted minutes of meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Minutes and Redacted minutes approved

### 2. Matters arising

The Working Group established on foot of the Self Evaluation Report, to look at the purpose of the Board and the Induction process of the Board had been unable to meet since the last Board meeting and their report was deferred to a further meeting.

### 3. Building Committee

An update was given on the work of the Building Committee by Judge Patrick McCarthy, chair of that Committee. He went through the reports and issues brought to the Committee during 2021. These included Hammond Lane, the Estates Strategy, Technology Courts, Leases to be surrendered, and various Court building site issues.

### Roscommon Courthouse (Report 1/2022)

Ms. Denning spoke on this Report which relates to the terms of a lease on a temporary venue in Roscommon where a proposal on the repayment period for the interest payment was before the Board.

After some discussion the proposal was approved by the Board.

### 4. FLDC Committee

Ms. Karen Kiernan spoke on the work of the Committee and outlined the updates the Committee had received from various groups such as Family Law Reform and the Hammond Lane project. It was agreed that the Terms of Reference of the FLDC would be included with the papers for the next time FLDC were reporting to the Board in March.

### 5. - 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Business plan update (Report 2/2022)

Ms. Denning spoke on this report which outlines the status of the Target Actions for 2021 at year end. Most Actions had been achieved and an explanation given for those which were not reached and will carry over into the Corporate Business Plan for 2022.

A discussion followed where it was agreed that the document published by the Courts Service on Human Rights Assessments would be circulated to the Board. An update on sustainability and discrimination was requested by the Board for a future meeting.

The Board noted the report.

### - CEO Report 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2021 (Report 3/2022)

Ms. Denning also spoke on this report which gives a more detailed insight into the Target Actions referred to in the Corporate Business Plan. She spoke on the highlights such as the Covid 19 update where things seem to be moving in the right direction, the progress of the Modernisation programme, HR, ICT and operational issues where as much as possible is being done within constraints, along with the work in JSU and support of JAAB.

The Board noted the report.

### **AOB**

Ms. Denning informed the Board that she would be meeting with the Minister for Justice on the 26<sup>th</sup> January.

The next meeting of the Board will be on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 8 a.m.

**List of Follow Up Actions – Board Meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> January**

<b>REPORT</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>DECISION / ACTION</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>
10/2021	Board effectiveness review	Proposals for the formal performance review process for the Chief Executive be re-visited	Chair/Secretary
56/2021	Board effectiveness review	An outcome of the discussion on the self-evaluation questionnaire was to form a small group chaired by President Birmingham to look at what the Board should be doing and what Induction on to the Board should be. A report is to be brought back to the Board on completion.	Working group
n/a	Scoping report by Judge Houghton	Any further updates will be brought to the Board as soon as they are available.	Chief Executive
N/A	Condition of Children’s Court Building in Smithfield	To be revisited by putting on the Agenda of future meeting	Chair/Secretary
39/21	Operational Committee	Working group to be established which will report back as to the best structure for the Judiciary to raise operational issues.	Tom Ward/Peter Mullan
N/A	Terms of Reference	A review of the Board’s TORs will need to be conducted.	Secretary
N/A	Sustainability	An update on Sustainability to be brought to the Board	
N/A	Discrimination	A report on Discrimination to be brought to the Board	
2/2022	Human Rights Assessment	Document published by Courts Service to be circulated to the Board	Secretary