



Minutes of the meeting of the Board of the Local Government Management Agency held Thursday 24th January 2019 at 11.00 a.m. in Local Government House, Ushers Quay, Dublin 8.

Present: Mr. O. Keegan (Chairperson) In Attendance: Mr. P. Dunne
Ms. J. Maguire Ms. N. McHugh
Mr. P. Carey Ms. M. Kelly
Mr. T. Lucey
Mr. P. Hynes
Mr. S. Neely
Mr. M. Walsh
Mr. P. Lemass

Apologies Mr. J. MacGrath

The Chair of the Board noted his interest in two decisions regarding the BCMS project that were due for approval by the Board at today's meeting.

The meeting agreed there was no need to hold a meeting in the absence of the Executive.

1. Minutes of the Meeting held on 22nd November 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd November 2018 were agreed.

2. Matters Arising

IPBMI

PWC agreed to release the PWC Summary Report and the IPB Value for Money Steering Summary Report to PAC. It is understood the High Court hearing is listed for next month.

3. Chief Executive Report

The Chief Executive report as tabled was noted, in particular:

Water Services

An update was provided to the Board on water services. A meeting took place yesterday between the management representatives to discuss their position with regard to the proposed WRC engagement. It was agreed the DHPLG would engage with the sector on legacy issues within 7-10 days. Issues centre around the transfer of staff and facilities. Irish Water will work on their communication plan with LGMA. The management side are to meet on 1st February and the union side on 7th February 2019, following which the WRC will schedule meetings.

Retained Fire Fighters

The decision of the European Court of Justice regarding the Matzak case has huge cost implications for the local authority retained fire fighter service. This has been raised at the NDFEM and the Chair of the CCMA has written to the DHPLG. It was agreed that Mr. Lemass would raise the issue with the DHPLG.

NOAC

Confirmation has been received from the Department of Justice that a combined submission from the sector regarding CCTV is acceptable.

The Rural Water Review Working Group met to discuss the delivery of the rural water business case. Further discussions are to take place before expressions of interest can be sought.

4. Update on Organisational Review

The CEO gave an update on the Strategic Review and advised that the implementation phase had been divided into three workstreams and allocated to 3 ACEO's. It was noted that Mr. Singleton ACEO is retiring at the end of March 2019 and his workstream has been allocated to Ms. McHugh.

When requesting sanction to fill upcoming vacancies, the Board was advised that the DHPLG had requested to see the Bearing Point report and Workforce Plan first. The meeting was advised that positions for which sanction were requested will continue to exist in the Workforce Plan and that a measure of flexibility regarding sanctions to fill such posts might be required from the DHPLG.

The Board were advised that Bearing Point had given a presentation to the senior management team on Monday 14th January 2019 on the ICT Spend and Capacity Review. The findings of the report are stark, namely skills gaps in-house to implement the strategy and unsuccessful recruitment drives. Significant investment is required to prepare LGMA technical systems so they are ready to be managed on an outsourced

basis. LGMA have asked Bearing Point to revert with options. This may include the LGMA tendering for a project manager to oversee the project. The final report is due within the next two weeks.

A parallel piece of work is being carried out to review the functionality of the LGMA inhouse ICT section. The meeting was advised that it is an enormous effort to keep internal ICT functioning at the required level. The meeting concurred the direction of travel for ICT for government departments is outsourced managed services, while at the same time retaining in-house skill sets to manage the outsourcing.

The Board was advised that should the Agency proceed with implementing the works recommended in the Review, there was likely to be a significant over expenditure in the 2019 budget to meet the estimated costs. It was noted that the Budget for 2019, agreed by the Board, did not provide for this expenditure and that it would be prudent that an amount from the AFS surplus 2018 be set aside to fund these requirements.

It was agreed that Bearing Point would provide an update to the Board on the ICT Review.

Single Building

The Board were advised that a potentially suitable premises identified as a single building solution for the LGMA is not on the market. The option of a shared tenancy of the building with Dublin City Council may be considered. Alternatively, one floor of the building could be acquired to accommodate Phoenix House staff. Options will continue to be explored. The Board thanked the Dublin City Council valuers for their assistance.

5. Decisions for Approval

5.1 Drawdown from an OGP Framework Agreements - BCMS

The Board approved the drawdown from a Framework Agreement for the "Provision of Business and Management and ICT Consultancy Services RFT 128458-PAS097F".

5.2 Upgrade Work to iHouse and Annual Charges 2019

The Board approved the proposed upgrade to work to the iHouse application and approved the HPSS Charges 2019.

5.3 Drawdown from an LGMA Framework "Building Infrastructure and Development Control and Services Integration".

The Board approved the drawdown from the LGMA Framework.

6. Governance

6.1 LGMA Committees 2019

The Board welcomed the list of LGMA Committees and Agendas 2019, noting it was useful to have a document which set out the inter connections between the various committees and working groups etc. It was agreed to provide the Board members with a map of the inter connections between the various committees.

6.2 Update from Chairs of Sub Committees

Finance Committee

The Committee was advised that should the Agency proceed with implementing the works recommended in the recently completed Review of the ICT Division, there was likely to be a significant over expenditure in the 2019 budget to meet the estimated costs. It was noted that the Budget for 2019, agreed by the Board, did not provide for this expenditure and it was agreed that it would be prudent that an amount from the surplus of 2018 should be set aside to fund these requirements.

ICT Committee

The ICT Committee meeting will be scheduled for February 2019.

Audit and Risk Committee

The Audit and Risk Committee meeting scheduled for December 2018 was deferred and will take place this afternoon 24th January 2019.

PSROG and Change Management Committees

The PSROG and Change Management Committee updates were covered in the Chief Executives Update Report to the Board.

7. Risk Management

The meeting was advised that the risk register had been comprehensively reviewed with input from each Assistant Chief Executive. Risks had been reduced or closed or mitigating factors updated. While there are no red risks, there continue to be risks associated with cyber security and ICT staffing.

There is one new risk from WSTO which relates to the process to discuss and agree the future direction regarding the SLA with Irish Water. The Board commended the work in updating the risk register.

8. Any Other Business

8.1 Our Public Service 2020

The OPS2020 decision paper, 'Action 6 Resourcing Model' and the Deloitte report, 'Enabling Innovation in the Irish Public Service' were noted. The importance of innovation and digital services within local government was discussed, with the Board noting the Bearing Point report and stakeholder consultation envisioned that the LGMA

be a key player on innovation on behalf of the sector. The Board agreed to keep OPS2020 on the agenda.

9. Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 28th March 2019 at 11 a.m. in Phoenix House, Conyngham Road, Dublin 8.

Signed: Chairman  Date: 28/3/19

