



A meeting of Laois and Offaly Education and Training Board was held on Monday 22 November 2021 at 4:30pm via Microsoft Teams.

### **PRESENT**

Cllr Robert McDermott (Chairperson)  
 Cllr Willie Aird  
 Cllr Frank Moran  
 Cllr John Carroll  
 Ms Mary Cotter-Bracken  
 Cllr Clare Claffey  
 Mr Shane Flesk  
 Mr John Mollin

Mr Dave Cullen  
 Ms Evelyn Dunne  
 Cllr Caroline Dwane-Stanley  
 Cllr Catherine Fitzgerald  
 Cllr Pdraig Fleming  
 Mr Frank Smith  
 Mr Niall Tully  
 Ms Molly Buckley

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr Joe Cunningham, Chief Executive  
 Ms Linda Tynan, Director of Schools  
 Ms Marie Bracken, Director OSD  
 Mr. Seamus Conboy, ETBI Director of Schools  
 Mr. Declan Qualter, Schools Support Programme Co  
 Ordinator  
 Ms. Jennifer Carter, Schools' Support  
 Ms Rebecca Preston, Corporate Services

### **1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chairperson informed members of the Board's new recording secretary, Rebecca Preston. He welcomed Rebecca and wished her well in her new role.

### **2. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllr Eddie Fitzpatrick.

### **3. PRESENTATION BY SEAMUS CONBOY, DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS (THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMUNITY NATIONAL SCHOOL (CNS) MODEL AND ETB SCHOOL ETHOS)**

Linda Tynan, Director of Schools, introduced Seamus Conboy, ETBI Director of Schools and Declan Qualter, Schools Support Coordinator at LOETB. This was followed by a presentation from Mr. Conboy on 'The Development of the Community National School Model and ETB School Ethos' with input from Linda Tynan and Declan Qualter. A discussion took place following the presentation and members thanked Seamus, Linda and Declan for their input.

#### 4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS LOETB MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting, which took place on 27 September 2021 were circulated to members. Members approved the minutes and they were signed by the Chairperson.

Proposed: Molly Buckley  
Seconded: Shane Flesk

#### 5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

#### 6. GOVERNANCE

##### Conflict of Interest

As per Schedule 3, Paragraph 10, Section 3 of the (ETB) Act 2013 and the Agenda Notice, no conflicts of interest were declared.

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#### 7. LSU BUILDINGS, BANAGHER

The Chief Executive (CE) gave members an update regarding the proposed sale of the LSU Buildings, Banagher. The proposed purchaser has decided not to proceed with the acquisition. It was noted that Offaly County Council have ongoing project research on the development of Banagher and, in particular, the marina. It was agreed that Offaly County Council be notified of the current position with the building and the CE agreed he would contact Anna Marie Delaney, CE, Offaly County Council. Members also agreed with the proposal from the CE that a report be commissioned on the potential future community use of the building.

#### 8. CORRESPONDENCE

Item No	Correspondence From	Date / Ref No.	Details	Comments
1.	Department of Education and Skills	CL0050-2021	COVID-19 Operational Supports for primary schools for 2021/2022	Noted by Members
2.	Department of Education and Skills	CL0051-2021	Revision of salaries of certain grades other than Teachers and SNAs	Noted by Members

Chairmans  
Initials

			employed by ETBs with effect from 1 October 2021	
3.	Department of Education and Skills	CL0053-2021	Revision of salaries with effect from 1 October 2021 for Clerical Officers and Caretakers employed in National Schools under the 1978/79 Scheme and Clerical Officers employed in Post Primary Schools under the 1978 Scheme	Noted by Members
4.	Department of Education and Skills	CL0054-2021	Revision of Salaries of School Secretaries and School Maintenance Staff in Community and Comprehensive Schools with effect from 1 October 2021	Noted by Members
5.	Department of Education and Skills	CL0055-2021	Revision of Salaries for Special Needs Assistants (SNAs) with effect from 1 October 2021	Noted by Members
6.	Department of Education and Skills	CL0056-2021	Revision of Teacher Salaries with effect from 1 October 2021	Noted by Members

## 9. Sustainability Strategy

Marie Bracken informed members that this document was on SharePoint for noting and that an organisation strategy statement would be developed in 2022 for the five-year period 2023-2028.

## 10. Draft Policies

The following draft policies were circulated to members prior to the meeting. Members approved the draft policies as follows:

### LOETB Policies

#### LOETB Public Sector Purchasing Card Policy

Proposed: John Carroll

Seconded: Pdraig Fleming

#### LOETB School Bank Accounts Policy

Proposed: Molly Buckley

Seconded: Willie Aird

## 11. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

The following minutes of the Committees of the Board were circulated to members prior to the meeting. Members noted same.

Audit and Risk Committee 10 May 2021  
 Birr OEC BOM Minutes 20 May 2021  
 Finance Committee Meeting 17 September 2021  
 Youth Work Committee Meeting 14 September 2021  
 Ard Scoil Chiaráin Naofa BOM Minutes 21 September 2021

## 12. LEASE/LICENCE AGREEMENTS

Marie Bracken informed members of the following:

1. METAC Training Centre Mountrath - Providing Plumbing facilities for apprentice training, licence for 2 years from January 2022.
2. Portlaoise Storage Depot - licence in place for storage of office materials and archive documentation for 3 years.
3. Unit 8, Castle Buildings, Tullamore - Lease in place until 31/08/2024 for FET provision.

Proposed: Molly Buckley  
 Seconded: Clare Claffey

## 13. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

### Schools Directorate:

#### **Schools:**

- Enrolments in our post-primary schools have increased this year. The Admissions process for enrolment for 2022/2023 is either underway or recently completed in most of our schools. The current indication is that enrolments will increase in most schools again for the next academic year.
- All schools continue to operate within their updated Covid-19 response plans. Extra resources are in place for this year to support them in managing Covid-19.
- Significant recruitment continues to take place to support schools in appointing fulltime and substitute teachers. Interviews for Assistant Principal posts are ongoing at present and appointees will be very welcome additions to our school leadership teams.
- A new Covid-19 Learning and Supports Scheme (CLASS) that will mitigate the impact to students' learning and wellbeing of Covid-19 closures and restrictions has issued from the Department of Education. Under the scheme, every school every has received an allocation (once off) of additional teaching hours, which they will use to meet the needs of their students.
- Budget 2022 has increased funding to expand the DEIS programme in schools from September 2022. Consultations and further communication will take place over the coming months.
- LOETB in collaboration with Laois Education Centre are hosting a webinar series highlighting practical approaches to 21<sup>st</sup> Century teaching, learning, and assessment. Sarah McEvoy from Tullamore College will be facilitating the first 2 events of this series on Assessment, Feedback, and Increasing Student

Engagement. Terence O'Brien from Banagher College will facilitate the 3<sup>rd</sup> event of the series outlining his school's Digital Planning Journey.

- Our first Ethos Professional Learning Network (PLN) Meetings for all LOETB schools took place on 3 October and 17 November. The focus for these two meetings was to facilitate each School Ethos Team Leaders to familiarise themselves with the ETBI School Core Values and Patrons Framework. Support and guidance will also be provided around undertaking a School Self-Evaluation (SSE) of Ethos using this framework in their own school. The ETBI pilot school or Ethos is Portlaoise College. They have attended two CPD sessions with DCU (7 October and 18 November) on undertaking an SSE of Ethos in their school. Third session takes place on 27 January 2022.
- Representatives from all LOETB schools have completed three days of training as part of the SEN inclusion mapping project. This is an ETBI and Mary Immaculate College, Limerick Collaborative pilot project to support schools to maximise the use of the inclusion resources available in each school. The aims of the project include developing an ETBI/MIC "Training of Trainers" model to support future growth of provision and it's mapping within the ETB Sector. This training began in September and will continue for the remainder of the year. LOETB has 2 schools in the pilot (Tullamore College and Clonaslee College) and inclusion coaches from all of our schools.
- Plastic free schools Workshop by Susan Adams (Education for Sustainability), funded by Comhairle na nÓg has taken place in our Offaly-based schools. Ard Scoil Chiarain Naofa, Banagher College, Tullamore College and Coláiste Naomh Cormac are involved in the initiative.
- Programme for Enhancing Digital Literacy for parents (PEDL) - Facilitator Training was provided for parents on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September in the Family Resource Centre in Portlaoise. LOETB have received funding to support this project. This initiative is being piloted in Portlaoise College, Oaklands Community College, and Ard Scoil Chiaráin Naofa Clara. The programme supports parents in improving their digital skills so they can continue to support their child with blended learning. Each school has provided training and support to other parents. It is a valuable resource for schools and LOETB in our continued support for and engagement with parents.
- PEDL Erasmus Transnational Partner Meeting: Our partners from Romania and Spain visited Ireland from 10-12 November. The exchange of practice involved a visit to Portlaoise College and Oaklands College on 11 November and a campus tour in Trinity College on 12 November.

### **Youth Services:**

- UBU Your Place Your Space 2021/New Greenfield Projects 2021: The Dept. Of Children, Equality, Diversity, Integration, and Youth (DCEDIY) is making an annual budget of €120,000 available for six new UBU projects in a number of ETBs including LOETB. The purpose of this budget is to allow for the development of one new service in Laois or Offaly to meet the needs of young people (vulnerable, marginalised and at risk) as identified in the Area Profile Needs Assessment and Service Requirement Tool. DCEDIY carried out a review of UBU Your Place Your Space scheme recommendation provided by LOETB Coordination Group and are accepting this decision and allocation notification. LOETB issued letter of approval and Service Level Agreement to Foroige, the successful applicant.
- UBU New Services National Selection 2022/2023: subject to the availability of funding, ETBs can make an application for a UBU New Services National Selection for inclusion on the panel for 2022 and 2023. Each ETB selected will be awarded €120,000 (full year costs) for the establishment of a new or augmented UBU service within their functional area. LOETB received letter from DCEDIY on 8

October 2021 and have been placed on the panel for potential UBU New Services in 2022/2023.

- Local Youth Club Grant Scheme 2021: DCEDIY allocated LOETB €73,991 for this Grant Scheme to administer to successful Local Youth Club group applicants. The scheme supports voluntary youth club activities for young people, with priority given to young people between the ages of 10 and 21. 26 applications were successful and in total awarded €72,973.30. The payment was made on 12 November 2021.
- Covid-19 Minor Grant Scheme for Youth Services and Youth Clubs 2021: DCEDIY allocated LOETB €15,892 for this Grant Scheme to administer to successful targeted staff led youth services and youth clubs/groups applicants for 2021. Under the terms of Covid-19 Minor Scheme, grant funding of up to €4,000 may be made available to youth services currently in receipt of targeted funding (UBU Your Place Your Space funding) and grant funding of up to €400 in current may be made available to youth clubs eligible to receive funding under the Local Youth Club Grant Scheme. 20 youth clubs and 2 UBU funded organisations were awarded €14,000. The remaining €1,892 from the allocation will be returned to exchequer. The payment was made on 12 November 2021.

### **Music Generation:**

- Tionól Harp and Pipes took place across 29-31 October, with over 110 young musicians taking part from all over Ireland, the majority of whom came to Portlaoise in person. Highlights included a live-stream event from The Malt House, Stradbally, featuring new music created by young harpers with world-renowned Scottish Harper Catriona McKay, a harp/pipes collaboration of 'The Eagles's Whistle' and Liam Ó Maonlaí performing 'Worry Not' with over 30 harpers.
- MG Laois celebrated International Uilleann Pipe Day on Saturday 6 November with a student concert in Laois Music Centre.
- MG Laois celebrated National Harp Day with a video of young musicians performing alongside Scottish duo Catriona McKay and Chris Stout, from the Ridge of Capard in The Slieve Bloom mountains on 14 October.
- Musical Memories launched a new phase of this highly successful intergenerational music project which includes grandparents of young musicians, and Mountmellick and Portlaoise Mens' Sheds. This was funded by the Creativity in Older Age fund, by Creative Ireland Laois (23 October).
- Two Music Network concerts were promoted by MG Laois 'Mairead Hickey and Agnès Clément' in The Malt House, Stradbally (12 October) and 'Kit Downes Dreamlife of Debris' in Dunamais Arts Centre (24 October) including outreach workshops with Music Generation Laois Schools programmes, and Laois School of Music piano students.
- Young Composer and Harper from MG Laois, Aoibhe Kettle, has been selected to take part in The National Concert Hall's Creative Lab project (1 November).
- The Impossible Dream - new music by Martin Tourish in collaboration with the Music Generation Laois, is set to premiere on Sunday 19 December in Portlaoise.

### **FET Directorate:**

#### **LOETB Apprenticeship Provision**

LOETBs Apprenticeship provision has grown significantly in 2021. We are currently delivering Phase 2 training to electrical apprentices as follows:

- Tullamore (Midland Skills Centre): 112 Apprentices
- Mountrath: 56 Apprentices

- ESB (Portlaoise): 48 Apprentices

It is our intention to further increase provision in 2022 as follows:

- Tullamore (Midland Skills Centre): 200 Apprentices
- Mountrath: 56 Apprentices (electrical)
- Mountrath: 28 Apprentices (plumbing)
- ESB (Portlaoise): 144 Apprentices

### **Provision: National Construction Training Centre, Mount Lucas**

LOETB has significantly developed the Mount Lucas site in the last 18 months. Currently the site has an annual throughput figure of 1,000 learners. The provision includes:

- NZEB programmes
- QQI accredited Retrofit provision
- Sustainable Construction programmes (QQI Levels 3 – 5)
- CSCS & UK Changeover courses
- Utilities Training

These programmes are available full and part time, on-line and on-site 6 days a week. We are currently working with DFHERIS, SOLAS and Enterprise Ireland to expand provision. It is our intention to increase the throughput figure to 2,000+ by the end of 2022.

### **Provision: Skills to Advance**

Skills To Advance supports the upskilling and reskilling of employers and employees in the region. This service, managed by LOETBs Enterprise Support Team, was the fastest growing service in 2021 with a 50% increase on 2020 provision. This year, approximately 1,500 employed people participated on our courses and programmes. In the main, our provision focuses on three areas:

- Digital Skills
- Remote Working
- Green Skills

In 2022, LOETB will open a purpose-built corporate training facility in the Midlands Skills Centre further enhancing our provision.

### **Provision: Bord Na Mona**

LOETB continues to engage with Bord Na Móna and their Peat Climate Action Scheme (PCAS) employees in the Peatland Rehabilitation Traineeship. The Traineeship offers employees QQI Awards in Biodiversity, Work Practice, Health and Safety at Work and Forestry and Fencing.

- 120 learners participated in 2021

We are providing a Certificate in Sustainable Agriculture in partnership with Teagasc and the Agricultural Colleges at Gurteen and Mountbellew.

- Over 50 learners have engaged in four Sustainable Agriculture Traineeships during 2021.

We have begun the process of engaging individually with Bord Na Móna employees to undertake a Skills Audit and Training Needs Analysis and present them with the opportunity to participate in an LOETB Career Transition Programme.

- 60 learners participated in 2021 with a further 300 enrolled for 2022.

We have also partnered with Bord Na Móna Recycling (previously AES) in the Bord Na Móna Driving Academy – HGV Traineeship with 12 participants that is currently in its tenth week.

- In 2022, we will upskill an additional 51 Bord Na Mona staff in Rigid and Artic Driving, in preparation for careers after the PCAS is completed.

### **Mitigating Against Education Disadvantage Fund 2021**

The Mitigating Against Educational Disadvantage Fund has followed on from the success of 2020 in supporting those who are experiencing disadvantage in our communities to engage with education and training while also enhancing their learning journey. This includes:

- The purchase of devices for 343 LOETB learners at a cost of €101,272.66
- The purchase of devices, equipment and other materials for 20 community groups and 8 schools at a cost of €300,559.65.

The total Mitigating Against Educational Disadvantage Fund application to SOLAS totals €401,832.31.

### **OSD Directorate:**

#### **Human Resources**

#### **The following posts have been filled since the last ETB meeting**

1 API PWT/Oaklands CC

1 API Acting/Oaklands CC

1 API PWT/Banagher College

2 API PWT/Dunamase College

1 API Acting/Dunamase College

1 Acting Programme Co-ordinator/St. Fergal's College, Rathdowney

1 Deputy Supervising Teacher/Portlaoise Prison

Grade III – Clerical Officer appointments in FET & Admin

1 Electrical Instructor/METAC, Mountrath

1 X Acting Principal/Dunamase College

1 Acting Deputy Principal/Dunamase College

4 Pro Rata Teaching posts

1 Youthreach Resource Worker/Adult Literacy Service

Substitute teacher panel



SNA substitute panel

Acting Grade V/QA Department

### Assistant Principal posts – in the appeal stage

1 PWT APII/Coláiste Naomh Cormac

1 Acting APII/Coláiste Naomh Cormac

2 API PWT/Ard Scoil Chiaráin Naofa

### Posts advertised at present

- Substitute teacher panel
- Electrical Instructor Apprenticeships cover panel
- Electrical Instructors
- Plumbing Instructors
- Community Training Officer – Grade VII

### PENSIONS UPDATE

<b>Pension Description</b>	<b>No.</b>
Members Retired/Pensions issued	15
Widow/Widower Pensions issued	3
Members/ Widows to return pension forms	0
<b>Total Estimated Pensions issued by end of Dec 2021:</b>	<b>18</b>

<b>Leaver Statements Report for 2021</b>	<b>Total Numbers</b>
How many staff members have left since 1 Jan 2021	<b>63</b>
How many Leaver Statements we have issued since 1 Jan 2021	16

<b>Leaver Statements Report 2013 - 2021</b>	<b>Total Numbers</b>
How many Total staff members have left since 1 Jan 2013	<b>396</b>
How many Leaver Statements we have issued since 2013	61
How many not able to issue (as they are Time-sheeted)	274
Currently processing members who started in 2020 and 2021	61

<b>Benefit Statements up to 31-Dec-2020 issued 30 June 2021</b>	<b>Total Numbers</b>
Total active Single Pension Scheme members on 31/12/2020	<b>398</b>
Benefit statements issued on 30 June 2021	59
How many not able to issue (as they are Time-sheeted or not matching with DPER)	318
How many processed but not able to issue due to error in CORE (started 1/9/20 SPS deductions taken only from 20/9/20)	21

We have emailed instruction to NSSO (National Shared Services Office) to apply pension increases to all LOETB retirees up to and including 1 Oct 2020 increases. We are fully up to date on the application of retiree increases.

Updating service on our new Core system for members aged 60+, where total number is 76 and members aged 55+ where total number is 95.

So far, we have completed service for 49 members on Core System.

We have written to ETBs for previous service to be transferred over to LOETB for 42 members.

We have transferred out service to other ETBs for total of 33 members where members were retiring.

### **PAYROLL FIGURES**

7/09/2021	1,041,270.03	844
01/10/2021	1,063,830.73	886
15/10/2021	1,115,286.82	917
29/10/2021	1,156,259.19	943
12/11/2021	1,145,625.17	945

### **Finance Report Budgets**

Ongoing monthly monitoring of all school and centre budgets is being carried out.

### **Finances**

Current Summary of finances to end of October 2021.

Summary of Workings to End October 2021

ITEM	Opening Grant Cash Balance	Adjustment to Opening Balance	Receipts	Credits Transfer	Receipt Targets	Payments	Closing Grant Cash Balance
Main Scheme Pay Grant	1,304,431	0	21,533,189	0	0	(24,652,276)	(1,814,656)
Main Scheme ONP Grant	750,938	0	1,634,074	0	0	(2,142,230)	241,882
Associated Main Scheme Grants	1,192,841	(824)	1,627,780	0	0	(1,051,623)	1,768,174
Capital Schedule	1,115,258	0	2,951,977	0	0	(2,215,620)	1,851,615
Further Education & Training	1,431,540	0	27,597,663	0	0	(26,757,575)	2,271,629
Youth Affairs	793	0	574,554	0	0	(379,373)	195,975
Agency	855,769	824	1,375,696	0	0	(936,658)	1,295,630
Self Financing	197,322	0	637,465	0	0	(908,699)	(73,911)
Third Party Funds	2,598	0	5,570	0	0	0	8,168
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6,850,590</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>57,937,969</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(59,044,053)</b>	<b>5,744,506</b>

### **Creditor Payments**

2,365 invoices, amounting to €5,464,187.18 were paid in the third quarter of 2021.

Of these, 51% were paid within 15 days of receipt of invoices, and a further 43% were paid within 30 days.

24 purchase orders for €20,000 or above, totalling €1,036,475.75 inclusive of VAT, were paid in the third quarter of 2021.

Public Sector Purchasing Cards

Purchasing cards have been rolled out to two schools and two FET centres on a pilot basis and the payment system is running well. Work has now started on rolling out to the rest of the scheme to be in place early 2022.

NTMA

LOETB are now set up to invest monies with NTMA. A budgeting system is near finalisation and it is hoped our first investment will take place in the coming week. By investing with the NTMA, LOETB will reduce the amount of negative interest being paid to our bank and NTMA are currently offering 0% interest rate.

**Corporate Services****Capital Projects and Buildings Works***Clonaslee College*

Works continuing on site. Grant Total €641,673.06. Allen Kenny Construction is the contractor.

*Portlaoise College – Phase 1 Reconfiguration Classrooms*

Approval received from DoE to proceed to construction. Works to commence in the next few weeks.

*Portlaoise College – Canteen Canopy*

Suirside Construction appointed. Works due to be completed mid-November 2021.

*Oaklands Community College, Edenderry*

The Interim Stage 2A Report for the above project was forwarded to DoE on 16 August 2021. Security Fencing erected.

*Portlaoise Head Office/FET Accommodation*

Michael Bracken Ltd. commenced works which are due to be completed shortly.

*Dunamase College – New School*

Seven surveys approved for site. Signage for new Site erected in August 2021

*Dunamase College – Tower Hill*

Works completed – Final Account and draw-down completed. A few snags remain to be completed.

*St Mary's Primary School, Edenderry*

Approval received from DoE for Design Team to be appointed. Tenders to go up on eTenders next week.

*Ard Scoil Chiaráin Naofa, Clara*

Works on installation of Staff Room completed in October 2021. ASD room works to commence end November 2021.

*Tullamore College*

Replacement of Gutting Works completed June 2021.

## *Coláiste Naomh-Cormac-Kilcormac*

Approval received from DoE re Traffic Calming Project - €137,857.50 – Kenny Lyons drawing up tender documents for eTenders

### **Further Education Projects**

- Portarlington FET Centre, Tarmac Works completed August 2021.
- Laois School Music, Painting works completed August 2021.
- Mount Lucas – New Warehouse Completed. Final Account agreed.
- Mount Lucas – NZEB Training Rigs currently being installed.
- Mount Lucas – Scaffolding Rig – Works to commence November 2021
- Unit 3 Castle Buildings – Consultant approved; preparing Tender documents
- Mountmellick FET Centre/Banagher FET Centre/Edenderry FET Centre minor projects – Tenders received for each project – currently being evaluated – Works to start mid-November 2021
- Axis Business Park Unit 24e, works ongoing with a possible finish date of 30 November.

### **Procurement**

#### *Scaffolding Components and Systems*

Letter of Acceptance/Contracts sent to the 2 Framework members. Contract starting 19 July 2021

#### *Waste Management/Class Materials Woodwork/Class Materials*

*Metalwork/School Books/365 Training/Catering Birr OEC/Catering Schools* Existing contracts extended for one year as per contract.

#### *Laser Cutters & 3D Printers - Schools*

Emails gone to Schools re drawdown requirements from DoE

#### *Air Cleaners Schools & Centres*

Currently being evaluated by M&E Consultant and will be completed mid-November

In response to a query on the introduction of purchasing cards, members were informed that the limits on the purchasing cards will vary depending on the size of the school or centre but will be in line with current Petty Cash limits. Control measures are in place and the cards will be used for smaller, routine items currently purchased through Petty Cash.

A member enquired as to the progress of the submission to the Dept. on developing a new school for Ard Scoil Chiaráin Naofa at the Drayon Villas site on the Kilbeggan road. The Chief Executive explained that he had been informed by the Principal Officer with responsibility for the project that an internal meeting to consider the proposal is to take place shortly and that we await the outcome of same.

A member enquired if LOETB has applied for funding under the Just Transition programme. The Chief Executive explained that, to date, dedicated funding had been provided by SOLAS to support LOETB training provision but that it is likely that LOETB will apply for funding under the next call for applications.

**14. VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

- To Denise Flanagan, teacher in Portarlington FET Centre, on the passing of her uncle
- To Deirdre Brennan, teacher in Portlaoise and Midlands Prison, on the passing of her brother
- To Jeff Phelan, Ard Scoil Chiaráin Naofa, on the passing of his father-in-law
- To Conor Meehan, teacher in Ard Scoil Chiaráin Naofa, on the passing of his aunt
- To Emma Casey, Tullamore College, on the passing of her aunt
- To Eadine Westman, Tullamore College, on the passing of her grandfather
- To Paula Bergin, St Fergal's College, on the passing of her aunt
- To Claire Marie Kenny, St Fergal's College, on the passing of her aunt
- To Geraldine Farrell, Clerical Officer in Abbeyleix FET Centre, on the passing of her uncle
- To Betty Wynne, Colaiste Naomh Cormac, on the passing of her mother
- To James Madden, teacher in Clonaslee College, on the passing of his uncle
- To Patricia Cullen, a Deputy Principal in Portlaoise College, on the passing of her mother
- To Maria O'Brien, Midlands Prison, on the passing of her uncle
- To Keith McClearn, a Deputy Principal in Portlaoise College, on the passing of his grandmother
- To Ann MacMahon, a teacher in Banagher College, on the passing of her aunt
- Paul McConway, on the passing of a father
- Shane Molloy, on the passing of his brother

**15. VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS**

A vote of congratulations was passed to:

- All staff who have participated in County finals in all sports
- Tullamore on winning the County Final
- Park/Ratheniska on winning the County Final
- Paddy Scales, Principal at Banagher College and Chairperson of St. Rynagh's GAA club, on winning the county hurling title for the third year in a row.

**16. AOB**

There were no items discussed under AOB.

**17. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT LOETB MEETING**

The next Meeting of the Board will take place on Monday 24 January at 4.30pm. Venue to be confirmed.

Chairmans  
Initials

Signed: Robert M. DeWitt

Date: 28/2/22

Chairperson

Kalamazoo - 32576.000

Chairmans  
Initials