



wwetb

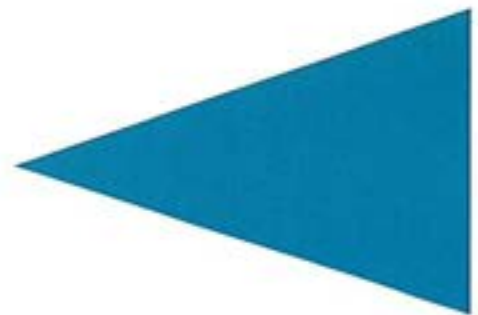
Bord Oideachais agus Oibiúna
Phort Láirge agus Loch Garman
*Waterford and Wexford
Education and Training Board*

Waterford and Wexford Education and Training Board

MINUTES

Of Meeting Held 16th November 2021

*Held via Microsoft Teams,
Tuesday, 16th November 2021 at 4.00p.m.*



Waterford and Wexford Education and Training Board **Minutes of Meeting held 16th November 2021 at 4.00p.m.**

Board Members in attendance: *Cllr. Barbara-Anne Murphy (Chairperson presiding); Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan (Deputy Chairperson, Cllr. Aidan Browne, Mr. Richard Byrnes, Cllr. Tom Cronin, Cllr. Kathleen Codd-Nolan, Ms. Margaret Darrer, Cllr. Cristiona Kiely, Cllr. Garry Laffan, Ms. Kate Miskella, Cllr. Pat Nugent, Cllr. Frank Quinlan, Mr. Pat Rath, Ms. Mary Ryan.*

Also in attendance: *Mr. Kevin Lewis, Chief Executive; Dr. Karina Daly, Director of Organisation Support and Development; Mr. Owen O'Mahony, Finance Officer; Ms. Eimear Ryan, Director of Schools; Mr. Ken Whyte, Director of Further Education and Training; Mr. Fintan O'Reilly, Corporate Services Manager, Mr. Michael O'Brien, Innovation and Development Manager.*

Presentations made to the Board by: *Ms. Liz Duffy, AEO and Ms. Regina Butler, Youth Officer; Mr. Kieran Kinsella, WWETB Ethos Co-Ordinator.*

Apologies: *Cllr. Mary Farrell, Ms. Sandra Fogarty, Cllr. Leonard Kelly, Mr. Senan Lillis, Cllr. Fionntán Ó'Suilleabháin.*

The meeting was conducted remotely using Microsoft Teams due to COVID-19 restrictions and advised to the Board in advance.

161121.01 WELCOME AND GENERAL

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting and outlined relevant meeting protocols to the Board. She emphasised confidentiality on all matters, including restrictions on the release of press-media communications until agreed by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairperson.

161121.02 CONFLICT OF INTEREST - DECLARATIONS

Conflict of Interest Declaration Forms were issued to the Board for their signature and return (*in order to fulfil requirements as set out in CL0002/2019 Code of Practice for the Governance of Education and Training Boards*). No conflicts of interest were declared.

161121.03 CONDOLENCES

The Board extended sympathy to the following on their bereavements:

- ~ *The family of Mr. Séamus Ó Cualáin;*
- ~ *Mr. Philip Twomey on the death of his mother Ms. Hannah Mary Twomey;*
- ~ *Mr. Declan Kelly on the death of his brother Mr. Colm Kelly;*
- ~ *The family of Ms. Betty Doyle.*

161121.04 MINUTES

The minutes of Waterford and Wexford Education and Training Board (WWETB) meeting held on the **14th September 2021** were adopted; Proposed Ms. Kate Miskella; Seconded Ms. Mary Ryan.

161121.05 FINANCE

Finance Report: The Finance Officer presented a report on the financial situation as at the end of the third Quarter 2021 (Ref. CE's Report pages 40-42 as circulated refers) which was noted. He listed receipts (including regular monthly Department of Education and bi-monthly SOLAS grants), payments and balances. He gave details on the closing balance figure which was due to a number of factors including balance carried forward to 2021, lower activity due to Covid-19 and the timing of SOLAS tranche funding. However, activity has increased considerably, relevant SOLAS refunds have been made and close budgetary monitoring is a key priority over the coming number of weeks. The Chairperson invited questions and thanked the Finance Officer for his report.

161121.06 CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) Letter of resignation from Board Member Cllr. **Eddie Mulligan** was read to the Board and noted. The Chairperson thanked Cllr. Mulligan for his work especially on his membership of the various Boards and Committees, particularly Waterford College of Further Education.

The Deputy Chairperson Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan also paid tribute to Cllr. Mulligan for his excellent chairmanship of the Waterford College of Further Education Board of Management. Cllr. Tom Cronin was welcomed back to the Board of WWETB to fill Cllr. Mulligan's vacancy and Cllr. Cristiona Kiely was welcomed to the Board filling the vacancy created by Cllr. Susan Gallagher. (Item 161121.17 also refers) It was agreed to send a letter of appreciation to both outgoing Board Members.

- (b) **Waterford Institute of Technology – Governing Body:** Sanction from the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science (DFHERIS) for the appointment of Student Representatives **Ms. Rachel McCartney** and **Mr. Killian Fitzgerald** to the Governing Body of Waterford Institute of Technology was noted; Proposed Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan; Seconded Ms. Mary Ryan.
- (c) **ETBs NPA – Parent Representative vacancies:** Copy of correspondence from the Vice President of the ETBs NPA forwarded to WWETB second level school Parent Associations. The CE gave a brief outline of content where they are requesting the Parents' Associations to seek members (one male and one female) for nomination to two outstanding parent representative vacancies.
- The Director of Schools subsequently received further clarification of the process which was summarised. The CE encouraged members to submit the names of any potential parent representatives who may be interested, for forwarding to the relevant authorities to inform the nomination process; the Chairperson seconded this.

161121.07 GOVERNANCE

The Chairperson read reports from the following Committee meetings:

- (a) **Audit and Risk Committee:** Report of meeting held 29th September 2021.
- (b) **Finance Committee:** Report of meeting held 14th October 2021.
- The Chairperson thanked both Committees for their valuable work on the Board's behalf and for their reports. She indicated that she had met with both Chairs and will be attending further meetings in the near future. No questions arose following the reports.
- (c) **Appointments to the Board of WWETB:** The Chairperson welcomed the following members elected to WWETB as notified by Waterford City and County Council (Item 161121.17(1)(a) also refers):
- (i) **Cllr. Cristiona Kiely** (to fill vacancy created by the resignation of Cllr. Susan Gallagher);
 - (ii) **Cllr. Tom Cronin** (to fill vacancy created by the resignation of Cllr. Eddie Mulligan).

161121.08 NOMINATIONS/MEMBERSHIP TO BOARDS OF MANAGEMENT AND COMMITTEE

The Board made the following appointments and noted resignations:

College Board of Management

Kilnashogue Community National School

St. Paul's Community College

Waterford College of Further Education

Nominees

Resignation of **Mr. Seánie Breen.**

Cllr. Cristiona Kiely (following the resignation of Cllr. Susan Gallagher):

Proposed Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan;

Seconded Cllr. Pat Nugent.

Cllr. Cristiona Kiely (following the resignation of Cllr. Eddie Mulligan):

Proposed Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan;

Seconded Cllr. Pat Nugent.

Student Representatives **Jamie Cullen** and

Claire Meagher:

Proposed Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan;

Seconded Ms. Kate Miskella.

Committee

South Wexford Area Committee

Ms. Kate Miskella appointed Chairperson of the South Wexford Area Committee:
Proposed Cllr. Garry Laffan;
Seconded Cllr. Aidan Browne.

161121.09 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

- (a) **The Chief Executive's Report** was circulated to the Board for information. The Report details information and updates on strategic developments, Schools, Further Education and Training (FET) and Organisation Support and Development (OSD). The CE and Directors gave an account for their respective areas highlighting some items and answered questions.

Strategic Developments

Appointments: The CE welcomed the recent appointment of: Ms. Mary Walsh-O'Shea and Ms. Sarah Lavan as Adult Education Officers in the FET area.

Buildings: Significant engagement with the Department of Education and Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science; considerable activity and progress taking place. A meeting to take place with Wexford County Council regarding the Carrigfoyle/Forth Mountain project and an update was provided.

Energy management: An MoU between the High Performance Building Alliance (HPBA) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) was formally signed by the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage Mr. Darragh O'Brien, TD and Chairperson of the HPBA Cllr. Barbara-Anne Murphy in the Customs House. The MoU emerged from the NZEB skill centre and the Innovation and Development Manager Mr. Michael O'Brien was invited to comment.

The CE and the Innovation and Development Manager attended the signing of the agreement which was live streamed at the international climate summit COP26 held in Glasgow. He explained that buildings are problematic as regards energy usage and the training delivered at Enniscorthy is setting about addressing that issue. Other initiatives include the launch of the Biodiversity Modules held on the 11th November in Dungarvan Youthreach and it is intended to shortly open training in relation to heat pumps.

The graduation of the first cohort of participants of the Level 7, Train The Trainer Certificates for NZEB in conjunction with the Limerick Institute of Technology (now the Technological University of the Shannon -TUS) and Waterford Training Centre (hub of the national work) is scheduled to take place on the 26th November 2021. The other two components centre around delivering training online and virtual reality training in relation to retrofit.

Cllr. Kathleen Codd-Nolan welcomed the signing of the MoU and the Innovation and Development Manager responded to a query on training delivery and cost involved for overseas students to upskill in high performance buildings. He confirmed that it would be delivered mostly online but an element would need to take place in Enniscorthy, however cost has been kept to a minimum in order to accommodate prospective students.

He also highlighted research conducted by a Unit of Westminster University at the Enniscorthy centre on behalf of Red Seal who manage certification in Canada.

Schools

The Director of Schools reported that three schools - St. Declan's Community College, Coláiste Abbáin and Kennedy College had incidental inspections recently, the emphasis was on anti-bullying measures.

FET

The Director of FET referred to the ongoing QQI Inaugural Statutory Review of FET Quality Assurance which is carried out in all ETBs and resultant documents generated by a dedicated team based within the Quality Assurance section. The external Review Panel are holding meetings throughout the week with the various stakeholders: staff, learners, practitioners and co-ordinators. The Project Team led by the Quality Assurance Manager, Alan O’Gorman, the FET Management Team and the SMT has been involved and he expressed his appreciation to everyone for their participation (the Board was advised that some members of the Executive were required to leave the meeting early to attend scheduled meetings with the Review Panel). A report and recommendations following the Review will be presented to the Board in due course.

Work is also ongoing on upgrades to the Waterford Training Centre and Wexford College of the Future, supported by the Corporate Services Manager and Buildings Team.

Organisation Support and Development

Music Generation: The Director of OSD highlighted a successful traditional music concert hosted by Music Generation Waterford in the Theatre Royal, Waterford; the CE acknowledged receipt of letter from the National Director of Music Generation on the excellence of the event.

Publication: Congratulations were extended to Dr. Karina Daly on the release of her book: *‘The History of Wexford Festival Opera 1951-2021’* which was recently launched.

(b) **COVID-19 Response Updates**

Verbal presentations were provided to the Board by the Chief Executive and Directors of Schools, FET and OSD on the current position in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic response.

Schools

Covid-19 related inspections were held in two schools which were both compliant. Challenges remain in schools especially in the management of substitution for absent staff and the Director of Schools gave examples.

FET

Services resumed with no major incidents; it has proven difficult to encourage some learners to return but overall there is still a good demand for face-to-face learning. FET Covid Managers met recently and are monitoring the situation while awaiting government guidance updates.

OSD

Return to administrative offices took place on the 4th October on a pattern of three days one week and 2 days the following week with no issues emerging. Further government advice is awaited and planning will take place accordingly.

Currently recruitment remains difficult. It has been problematic securing interview board members so further changes to schedules will emerge based on guidelines released. Overall business has been proceeding well.

The Director of OSD responded to query from Ms. Kate Miskella on opportunities to work remotely for school secretaries which had been brought to her attention.

Board Self-Assessment Evaluation Questionnaire (Item 161121.17(1)(b)refers).

The Director of OSD notified the Board that a standard annual self-assessment evaluation questionnaire would be forwarded the following week for completion by Board Members independently.

She explained that the questionnaire provides an opportunity for Board Members to score their level of satisfaction under various headings, the questions as set by the Code of Practice for the Governance of ETBs. The responses are then collated and presented back to the Board for discussion at a board meeting.

161121.10 PRESENTATIONS

(a) **Presentation: Youth Affairs - Ms. Liz Duffy, Adult Education Officer (AEO) and Ms. Regina Butler, Youth Officer**

The Director of FET introduced Ms. Liz Duffy, AEO and Ms. Regina Butler, Youth Officer. The AEO Ms. Liz Duffy thanked the Board and began by providing an overview of the WWETB Youth Work Affairs Team comprising three Youth Officers Mr. Martin Fitzgerald, Ms. Trina Tsai and Ms. Regina Butler and two administrative staff Ms. Cathy Drohan and Ms. Anna Doyle. She outlined her remit as an AEO with responsibility for youth services comprising Youth Work Affairs, Youthreach and Community Training Centres. She then introduced her colleague and Youth Officer Ms. Regina Butler and thanked Ms. Anna Doyle for compiling the documentation.

Ms. Regina Butler, Youth Officer thanked the Board and began her presentation with a description of Youth Work which was described as a planned programme of education designed for the purpose of aiding and enhancing the personal and social development of the young person through their voluntary participation. Some young people, due to life events, and circumstances have been shown to benefit from the youth work response and she gave some examples.

She outlined the background to the ETBs Youth Work function context. Youth Officers work with 30 UBU staff-led Youth Work projects and three Youth Information Centres and over 80 youth clubs annually. A lot of the work relates to administration of grant schemes related to Youth work and implementation of UBU oversight processes. She explained UBU staff-led projects were previously known as the 'Young Peoples Facilities and Services Funds' or 'Special Project for Youth' SPY projects until they were amalgamated into one scheme: UBU – Your Place Your Space. Youth workers employed in those projects work directly with the young people.

The AEO referred to Funding Strand Allocations and a number of initiatives including a 'Greenfield site' which relates to a newly approved project in Bunclody. A query was responded to from Cllr. Kathleen Codd-Nolan in this regard. The Project 'BAYS' has commenced with FDYS as the provider of the new youth service following an UBU application process. The Programme will work with targeted groups of young people and follows a research process conducted previously.

A Booklet: '*A Guide to the Youth Affairs Section*' containing further information including contact details accompanied the presentation and it was agreed to forward a copy to Board members.

The Chairperson thanked the AEO and Youth Officer for their presentations. The CE thanked both presenters and the Youth Work Affairs Team which delivers services across both counties. He said that the Director of FET leads an excellent team with the AEO Ms. Liz Duffy and he mentioned the Innovation and Development Manager Mr. Michael O'Brien who played a major part in establishing the Youth Affairs Unit; he welcomed Youth Officer Ms. Regina Butler (who previously worked at ETBI) to the organisation.

Work has commenced on identifying gaps in youth service provision in other areas using the Area Profile Needs Assessment and Service Requirements Tool to progress the support of young people throughout the ETB's remit with a particular focus on trying to establish another 'Greenfield Site' in Dungarvan/West Waterford.

(b) **Presentation: Ethos Framework in WWETB post-primary schools - Mr. Kieran Kinsella, WWETB Ethos Co-ordinator.**

The Director of Schools introduced Mr. Kieran Kinsella, WWETB Ethos Co-ordinator to the Board and gave a brief background to Mr. Kinsella's appointment as WWETB Ethos Co-ordinator who will work with schools in delivering their Ethos Statements. Mr. Kinsella works as a teacher in Selskar College, Wexford Town. When the new Admissions policies were drafted the Characteristic Spirit Statement was required to be included in the admission policy of each school and it is planned that the Ethos Statement should be contained within all relevant policies and that every school will be in a position to identify who they are and what they represent.

The Ethos Co-ordinator Mr. Kieran Kinsella began his presentation: '*Ethos Framework in WWETB post primary schools*' and briefly outlined his role which is to support schools as they begin to implement the ETB Patrons Framework on Ethos. He was appointed in March 2021, is a Guidance Counsellor and Wellbeing Co-ordinator at Selskar College currently. He explained the role of Ethos Co-ordinator which is a supportive one for WWETB schools around implementation of the ETB Patrons Framework on Ethos.

He described 'Ethos' which is the characteristic spirit of a culture, organisation or community as demonstrated in its attitudes, aspirations and incorporates the values underpinning all aspects of school life. He gave a brief history of the journey on the formulation of ETB Ethos from its beginning in 2011 – 2021 culminating in the ETBI Patrons Framework and approval of an Implementation Plan for 2021/'22. The draft ETBI Patrons Framework lists three distinct resources for schools.

He referred to the Implementation phase beginning with Principal/Deputy Principal Training, Principals meeting presentation, developing a Community of Practice, establishing an Ethos Leadership Team, board of management awareness raising (potentially looking at providing presentations to the Ethos Leads who will then go to the boards of management in their schools and present to members) and finally Implementing the Patrons' Framework.

He has met with the Communications Officer in relation to publicising the message and has communicated with the Education Co-ordinator on the guidance counsellors 'Community of Practice' with a view to presenting to the guidance counsellors throughout WWETB. Kennedy College is a pilot school SSE of ETHOS - DCU and he outlined the details.

The main goal is to create awareness and to ensure that every member of a school team is aware of the five Core School Values of *Excellence in education, Care, Equality, Community and Respect* and each Ethos Lead will raise awareness and enhance understanding of WWETB's ethos by a variety of means which he outlined and gave examples of, such as Stand Up Awareness and College Awareness weeks. The Director of Schools added that the graphic displayed could represent a useful tool or reference point at board of management decision making level.

He thanked the Board, invited questions and it was agreed that the presentation would be forwarded to the Board. The Director of Schools explained that this work is running in parallel with all ETBs and across all ETB schools nationally.

The Chairperson thanked Mr. Kinsella for his worthwhile work in ensuring and communicating what an ETB school represents ethos wise. The CE thanked him on behalf of the Executive for the work and great momentum that has taken place in a short period of time. He referred to difficulties sometimes articulating what ETB schools stand for and is confident the message is emerging of what ETB schools represent in the community.

161121.11 POLICIES

The Corporate Services Manager presented the following policies and summary documents (circulated to the Board) (Item 161121.17(2) also refers). He invited questions and the following policies were noted by the Board:

- (a) *Adult Safeguarding Policy and Procedure 2021*
- (b) *Alcohol and Drugs Policy*
- (c) *Protected Disclosures Policy*
- (d) *Fixed Assets Policy*
- (e) *Disposal of Fixed Assets Policy*
- (f) *Corporate Safety Statement*
- (g) *Smoke Free Workplace Policy*
- (h) *Summary of Policy updates*

161121.12 BOARD/COMMITTEE REPORTS (including draft reports if not stated)

The following Board of Management reports were noted by the Board (Item 161121.17(3) also refers):

- (a) Board of Management Reports:
 - *Creagh College: 2020-2021;*
 - *Kilnamanagh Community National School held 19/10 and 27/08/'21;*
 - *St. Paul's Community College held 26/08 and 29/09/'21;*
 - *Kennedy College 2020-2021;*
 - *Youthreach Committee held 12/10/2021.*

161121.13 ETBI (Education and Training Boards Ireland)

ETBI Reserve Members Forum - Report: Report of ETBI Reserve Members Forum meeting held 7th October 2021 was circulated. Cllr. Kathleen Codd Nolan informed the Board of the newly nominated Chairperson of the ETBI Reserve Members Forum - Cllr. Roger Kennedy. She undertook to keep the Board informed on the ETBI programme of work which was discussed at the last meeting of the Reserve Members Forum.

161121.14 CIRCULAR LETTERS: Department of Education

{available: <https://www.education.ie/en/Circulars-and-Forms/Active-Circulars/>}. The following Circular Letters were adopted: Proposed Ms. Mary Ryan; Seconded Cllr. Kathleen Codd Nolan.

- (a) 0056/2021: Revision of Teacher Salaries with effect from 1 October 2021.
- (b) 0055/2021: Revision of Salaries for Special Needs Assistants (SNAs) with effect from 1 October 2021.
- (c) 0051/2021: Revision of salaries of certain grades other than Teachers and SNAs employed by ETBs with effect from 1 October 2021.
- (d) 0050/2021: The managerial authorities of recognised primary schools, special schools and the chief executives of education and training boards COVID-19 operational supports for the 2021/22 school year.
- (e) 0049/2021: Home Tuition Grant Scheme in respect of Maternity Related Absences.
- (f) 0048/2021: Home Tuition Grant Scheme for children without a school place.
- (g) 0047/2021: Guidelines for the use of Reduced School Days in Schools.

161121.15 PRESS RELEASES: Department of Education

(available: <https://www.education.ie/en/Press-Events/Press-Releases/2020-press-releases/>). The following Press Releases were brought to the attention of the Board and noted (Item 140921.17(4) also refers):

- (a) Minister Madigan welcomes commitment to deliver 1,700 additional special class places in 2022.
- (b) Ministers Foley and Madigan announce details of €9.2 billion education funding in Budget 2022, including measures to tackle disadvantage and support children with special educational needs.
- (c) Ministers Foley and Madigan welcome the 5-year investment of €4.4 billion in school infrastructure under Project Ireland 2040.
- (d) Ministers Foley and Madigan launch guidelines on the use of reduced school days.
- (e) Minister Foley welcomes publication of case-study report on schools participating in the Gaeltacht School Recognition Scheme.

161121.16 PRESS RELEASES: Dept. of Further & Higher Education, Research, Innovation & Science

(available: https://www.gov.ie/en/search/?type=press_releases&organisation=department-of-higher-education-innovation-and-science). (Item 140921.17(5) also refers). The following Press Releases were brought to the attention of the Board and noted:

- (a) Minister Harris announces establishment of Technological University for South East in 2022.
- (b) Minister Harris launches new initiative to address education inequality across 21 DEIS schools.
- (c) Minister Harris welcomes appointment of Prof Philip Nolan as Director General of Science Foundation Ireland.
- (d) Minister Harris launches 'Speak Out', an online and anonymous tool for students and staff to report violence and sexual harassment.
- (e) Minister Harris announces Emer O'Neill, Luke O'Neill and Shane O'Donnell as Creating Our Future ambassadors.
- (f) Budget 2022: €121 million skills package essential for new world of work – Ministers Harris and Collins.
- (g) Ministers Harris and Collins announce investment in higher education, student supports, apprenticeships and skills.
- (h) Financial and mental health wellbeing supports to students worth €22 million announced by Minister Harris.
- (i) Ministers Harris and Collins welcome launch of new National Development Plan.
- (j) National Skills Council discusses barriers facing women and persons with disabilities in accessing the labour market.
- (k) Pop-up vaccination clinics begin today as thousands of first years begin their college experience.
- (l) Student Grants Appeals Board members appointed by Minister Harris.

The Chairperson highlighted the announcement of the establishment of the Technological University for the South East in 2022 which was welcomed. Ms. Mary Ryan proposed that a letter of congratulations from the Board would be sent to the Presidents and staff of Carlow IT and Waterford IT on their new designation which was much anticipated and welcomed.

161121.17 ADDENDUM

(1) GOVERNANCE

- (a) Notification from Waterford City and County Council of the election of **Clr. Cristiona Kiely** and **Clr. Tom Cronin** to fill vacancies on the Board of WWETB. The Chairperson welcomed both Councillors to the Board of WWETB. (161121.07(c) also refers).
- (b) Board Self Evaluation Questionnaire. (Item 161121.09(b) refers)

- (c) Executive nominee to Wexford LCDC: The Board noted Mr. Michael O'Brien's nomination to the Committee.

(2) **POLICIES**

A number of policies were noted by the Board (Item 161121.11 also refers).

(3) **BOARD/COMMITTEE REPORTS** (including draft reports)

(a) *North Wexford Area Committee*: report of meeting held 20th October 2021 was noted. (Item 161121.12 also refers).

(4) **PRESS RELEASES: Department of Education**

{available: <https://www.education.ie/en/Press-Events/Press-Releases/2020-press-releases/>}. The following Press Releases were brought to the attention of the Board and noted (Item 161121.15 also refers):

- (a) Minister Foley meets primary and post-primary students to mark UNESCO International Day against violence and bullying at school and encourage schools to speak out on how to address bullying and promote online safety.
- (b) Minister Foley welcomes €2 million funding to help address education disadvantage in Dormant Accounts Action Plan 2022.
- (c) Minister Madigan delivers Ireland's National Statement to the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

(5) **PRESS RELEASES: Dept. of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science**

{available: https://www.gov.ie/en/search/?type=press_releases&organisation=department-of-higher-education-innovation-and-science}. (161121.16 also refers). The following Press Releases were brought to the attention of the Board and noted.

- (a) Minister Harris welcomes beginning of Science Week.
- (b) Minister Harris announces important changes as CAO website enhanced to include further education and training options.
- (c) Minister Harris and Collins welcome recovery in apprenticeship registrations.
- (d) Science Week 2021 - Minister of State Collins' closing statement to Dáil Éireann.
- (e) Science Week 2021 - Minister Harris' opening statement to Dáil Éireann.
- (f) Leaving Cert reform – Minister Harris' address to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Education, Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science.

161121.18 A.O.B.

- (a) The Chairperson thanked the Board for its attention in addressing agenda items and in facilitating staff's attendance at scheduled QQI review meetings.
- (b) The Chairperson acknowledged the difficulties encountered in managing current challenges, especially at school level and await further government guidelines. She concluded by wishing everyone well.

161121.19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- (a) The next meeting of WWETB is scheduled to take place on **Tuesday, 11th January 2022**.
- (b) *Draft Schedule of WWETB meeting dates 2022*: It was agreed to liaise with both local authorities regarding district meeting dates to ensure that Tuesday, as currently the case, remains the most convenient day to hold Board meetings.

Signed: 

Date: 11/01/2022

Documents circulated:

Agenda

Conflict of Interest Declaration Forms

Minutes of WWETB meeting held 14th September 2021

Audit and Risk Committee Report 29th September 2021

Finance Committee Report 14th October 2021

Chief Executive's Report

Summary and Policies x 9

ETBI Reserve Members Forum Report 7th October 2021

North Wexford Area Committee Report 20th October 2021

Draft Schedule of meeting dates 2022

Addendum

Presentations for circulation after meeting