

## **Civil Service Management Board**

**26<sup>th</sup> March 2021 @ 9.30am**

**Webex**

### **Item 1 – Civil Service Renewal 2030 Strategy**

The acting Secretary General DPER introduced this item and noted the mission statement is different to that of the 2014 Civil Service Renewal Plan; the intention to bring the Strategy to Government after Easter; and invited final observations on the updated draft.

The CSMB noted that they are very happy with the updated Strategy and thanked the team in DPER for their work on amending it to reflect the points made at the January meeting.

It was requested that a number of topics be better drawn out in the Strategy, including: - engagement with the research community; the link between trust and evidence informed policy; the relationship between the Civil Service and Government and the political arena that the Civil Service operates in.

It was also stressed that the first three-year action plan tie in significant plans such as the National Development Plan and the Climate Action Plan. It was also noted that the workplace of the future is a more immediate challenge once we move out of the pandemic and a coherent approach across the Civil Service will be required urgently.

It was noted that events to raise awareness and understanding of the Strategy amongst employees should be arranged in tandem with its launch and that messaging should be free of jargon.

DPER will make final amendments to the Strategy and submit it to Government for approval after Easter. Following this, attention will turn to developing the three-year detailed action plan.

The Chair noted that the agenda for the next meeting of the CSMB will include a discussion on the first three-year action plan; and the capacity of the Civil Service to deal with climate change.

### **Item 2 – Covid-19**

The CSMB was provided with a verbal update on Covid-19. Good progress is being made on the vaccine rollout and it was noted that the CSO would be publishing figures this month that show tangible evidence of the impact of the vaccine programme, with the rate of infections in over 65's reducing, which will have a positive effect on hospital admissions.

It was noted that Government would be deciding on restrictions the following week.

It was stressed that employees should continue to work from home as much as possible in April.

### **AOB**

The CSMB extended their sympathies to Derek Moran who was unable to attend the meeting due to a family bereavement.

### **Attendance**

*Martin Fraser, Department Taoiseach*

*Robert Watt, Department of Health*

*Jacqui McCrum, Department of Defence*

*Seán Ó Foghlú, Department of Education*

*Jim Breslin, Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science*

*Graham Doyle, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage*

*Kevin McCarthy, Department of Rural and Community Development*

*Katherine Licken, Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media*

*Ken Spratt, Department of Transport*

*Maurice Buckley, Office of Public Works*

*Damien Moloney, Office of the Attorney General*

*Shirley Comerford, Public Appointments Service*

*Pádraig Dalton, Central Statistics Office*

*Oonagh McPhillips, Department of Justice*

*Niall Burgess, Department of Foreign Affairs*

*Niall Cody, Revenue TBC*

*John McKeon, Department of Social Protection*

*David Moloney, Department of Public Expenditure and Reform*

*Brendan Gleeson, Department Agriculture, Food and Marine*

*Orlaigh Quinn, Department Enterprise, Trade and Employment*

*Fergal Lynch, Department Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth*

*Mark Griffin, Department Environment, Climate and Communications*

### **Secretariat**

*Liz Canavan, Department of the Taoiseach*

*Colin Menton, Department of Public Expenditure and Reform*

*Fiona Curran, Department of the Taoiseach*

### **Apologies**

*Derek Moran, Department of Finance*