



Public Participation Network Feedback Form: County Longford Childcare Committee



PPN Community & Voluntary elected Representative: **Kerrie Prendergast**

Date of Meeting: 15th March 2021

Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome new member
2. COVID National Helpline for providers
3. COVID EYS Update
4. Nomination to the Committee
5. Co-ordinator Report
6. Provider Update
7. Agency Update
8. AOB

In Attendance: Carrieann Belton (LCCC Co-ordinator), Paula Mulry, Frank Horne, Clement Shevlin, Melissa Eager, Brian Higgins.

Apologies: Kerrie Prendergast, Tony Kemple, Antonella Taffe

Absent:

Presentations: Yes / **No** (details if Yes)

Agenda item	Member	Discussion	Actions / Who
<u>Welcome</u>	Carrieann	Carrie welcomed Brian Higgins from LWETB as the new representative followed by introductions all around.	

Covid-19 National Helpline	Carrieann	Longford and Roscommon CCC's are successfully managing the Covid-19 helpline nationally for providers. The helpline commenced on 20 th February and is due to run for 12 weeks. Demand is there for the service and the CCC's report to the Dept. each week with figures from each weekend.	
Covid 19 update EYS:	Carrieann	ECCE services reopened on March 8 th . Other services were required to open for frontline and essential workers. LCCC continues to provide support to providers for queries re: funding / Covid related queries etc. Staffing and staff shortages are still a huge concern for providers and LCCC have made the DCEDIY aware of this. DCEDIY have a system in place now for providers to liaise with the Dept of Social Protection directly to find potential suitable staff. LCCC are providing support to SAC services that are completing registrations with Tusla, deadline is 16 th April.	
<u>Committee Nomination</u>	Carrieann	LCRL Nomination – Ann O'Connor nominated and approved as new LCRL Rep.	
<u>Co-ordinator Report</u>	Carrieann	Always Children's first training – postponed as it has to be provided in-house. SDO participated in training to provide roll out of Child Safeguarding pilot programme. SDO participated in DLP/DDLP training webinars. Music generation pilot – 11 providers participating, commencing Thursday March 18 th via Zoom. All providers enthusiastic to start the programme. Childminding Initiative has not been published yet. We are sharing any reopening supports. Weekly bulletin is being circulated each week 2 Training sessions provided for providers with Anthony O'Prey (HSE), called "Mind your mind" proved very successful and noted that there is a need for this training to support practitioners given the current circumstances.	
<u>Provider Update</u>	Melissa Eager	Community – Melissa reported. Providers frustrated with how queries are being dealt with on the Hive system. CB noted the frustrations as access has not been given to LCCC to the Hive and therefore support cannot be provided fully on this to the provider and most queries need	

		to be addressed by Pobal directly. CB advised to raise query through the query section on the Hive as may be answered quicker than email EYPC@pobal.ie. Private - none	
<u>Agency Updates</u>	Frank Horne Clement Shevlin Paula Mulry	Agency Updates Co.Co. Frank Horne reported that repair /clean up works are ongoing at play facilities Unions: Clement Shevlin reported the announcement on Friday March 12 th from the Minister to have JLC implemented. Huge day for the sector and getting closer to having the sector professionalized. Monumental step in right direction. Library Service: Paula Mulry reported. Service is online only at this time. Staff are available by phone. Online initiatives available around creativity and story time. New initiative starting soon for ELC services called "Book bag project" Paula will keep us informed on this.	
<u>AOB</u>		AGM to take place on 26 th April 2021. MK to send notice to Board members.	