City of Dublin ETB Board Meeting January 2026

Minutes of the meeting of the City of Dublin Education and Training Board held on Thursday 15th January 2026 at 5.00 p.m. in City of Dublin ETB, Head Office, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4 and via Zoom.

Present:

Cllr. Keith Connolly (Chairperson)
Ms. Bernadette Bourke (online)
Ms. Audrey Cepeda (online)
Cllr. Donna Cooney (online)
Mr. Niall Donald (online)
Cllr. Declan Flanagan (online)
Cllr. Jesslyn Henry
Cllr. Vincent Jackson (online)
Cllr. Dermot Lacey (online)
Ms. Denise McMorrow
Cllr. Cat O'Driscoll (online)
Cllr. Gayle Ralph (online)
Mr. Michael Smyth
Mr. Aidan Sweeney

In attendance:

Dr. Christy Duffy (Chief Executive)
Ms. Kay Cullinan (Director of OSD*)
Ms. Aideen O'Riordan (Director of OSD* - Finance)
Mr. Blake Hodkinson (Director of FET)
Mr. John Moriarty (Director of FET)
Mr. Philip Connolly (Director of Services SUSI)
Mr. Damien Costello (Governance Officer)
**Organisation Support & Development*

Apologies:

Ms. Wesleigh O'Hagan (Director of Schools)
Mr. Adrian Cummins
Mr. Malachy Farrell
Cllr. Rory Hogan
Cllr. Michael MacDonncha
Cllr. Colm O'Rourke

The Chairperson opened the meeting by welcoming Cllr. Hazel de Nortuin who was nominated by Dublin City Council as a replacement for Cllr. Carolyn Moore.

1. Signing of Attendance Record/Conflicts of Interest/Disclosure of Interests

In accordance with the provisions of CL 0083/2024 Code of Practice for the Governance of Education and Training Boards, members were requested to declare to the Chairperson of City of Dublin ETB or Chief Executive any conflict of interest in respect of any of the matters listed for consideration suitable in advance of meetings of City of Dublin Education and Training Board.

2. Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes of the City of Dublin ETB meetings held on the 20th of November were approved.

Proposed by: Cllr. Dermot Lacey ***Seconded by: Cllr. Jesslyn Henry***

3. Reserved Functions

3.1 **City of Dublin ETB Nominee Vacancies on Committees and Boards of Management** (Appendix 3A) was noted.

The Board was reminded that the Audit and Risk Committee are still seeking one more board member to join the Audit and Risk Committee as they are concerned that there is not a full board member representation on the committee.

3.2 Approval of City of Dublin ETB Nominee, Parent/Student, Teacher, BoM Nominees to Boards of Management and Committees was approved as per Appendix 3B.
Proposed by: Cllr. Vincent Jackson ***Seconded by: Cllr. Jesslyn Henry***

3.3 Report – Audit and Risk Committee Meeting November 2025 (Appendix 3C) was noted.
The issue of Board representation on the Audit and Risk Committee was highlighted.

3.4 Ethics Board Members Correspondence and Designated Directors Statement of Interest (Appendix 3Di & 3Dii) was noted.
The Board were advised that the Ethics declarations are a yearly requirement linked to the Code of Practice for the Governance of Education and Training Boards.

4. Chief Executive's Report

The Board were given an update on the City of Dublin ETB Strategy Statement 2026 – 2030 launch which will take place on the 26th of January. The Board were advised the presentation of the launch will be online and there will be a short five-minute video accompanying the presentation. The Board were advised that the City of Dublin ETB will host an EXPO style showcase in Croke Park on the 25th of March, this is to showcase the breadth of services offered by City of Dublin ETB and will include students, staff and keynote speakers. The event will showcase the huge work across the city and is an opportunity to promote the City of Dublin ETB brand.

The Board were informed that City of Dublin ETB have been awarded patronage of the new hospital school. City of Dublin ETB are already the patronage of two hospital schools in Solas Hospital School and Beaumont Hospital school. The new hospital school will amalgamate both Solas and Beaumont hospital schools and two other existing hospital schools in Dublin City who will transfer patronage to City of Dublin ETB. The Board were advised that the new Hospital school is planned to open on 1st September this year.

4.1 **Director of Schools Report** (Appendix 4A) was noted.

4.2 **Directors of FET Report** (Appendix 4B) was noted.
The Board were updated on the FET 2026 budget. The Board were informed that City of Dublin ETB have received an indicative 2026 budget allocation from SOLAS. The Board were advised that there are areas of concern regarding the adequacy of the budget and this will be raised with SOLAS.

4.3 **Director of OSD Finance Report** (Appendix 4C) was noted.
The Board were advised that the end of year figures will be presented at February's board meeting. The Board were informed that there is ongoing work with the service plan and last year's financial statements.

4.4 **Director of OSD Report** (Appendix 4D) was noted.
The Board were advised of the Whitehall site masterplan with stage 1 design submitted to Department. The Board were informed of the positive engagement from all principals involved in the plan.

4.5 **Director of Services SUSI Report** (Appendix 4E) was noted.
The Board were informed that City of Dublin ETB were mentioned in relation to the MySUSI IT project at the PAC when the C&AG presented the boards accounts for 2024.

4.6 **City of Dublin ETB Digital Strategy** (Appendix 4F) was noted.
The Board were informed that one of the aims of the Strategy Statement 2026 -2030 is to become a leading digital public service. The board were advised that part of the service plan is to achieve this.

4.7 **Corporate Child Safeguarding Statement** (Appendix 4G) was noted.

5. Risk

6. Boards of Management and Committees Minutes for Noting

The following Board of Management and Committee minutes were confirmed.

- South City CNS held on 14th May 2025 (**Appendix 6A**)
- South City CNS held on 16th June 2025 (**Appendix 6B**)
- Beaumont Hospital School held on 6th June 2025 (**Appendix 6C**)
- An Cosán CSS held on 1st October 2025 (**Appendix 6D**)
- Cabra CC held on 16th September 2025 (**Appendix 6E**)
- Clogher Road CC held on 11th March 2025 (**Appendix 6F**)
- Clogher Road CC held on 13th May 2025 (**Appendix 6G**)
- Clogher Road CC held on 9th September 2025 **(Appendix 6H)**
- Kylemore College held on 22nd October 2025 **(Appendix 6I)**
- Presentation CC held on 8th May 2025 **(Appendix 6J)**
- Presentation CC held on 6th June 2025 **(Appendix 6K)**
- FET College Íde, Finglas held on 11th June 2025 **(Appendix 6L)**
- FET College Crumlin, Crumlin Rd held on 22nd October 2025 **(Appendix 6M)**
- FET College Cathal Brugha held on 22nd October 2025 **(Appendix 6N)**
- FET College Rathmines held on 23rd May 2025 **(Appendix 6O)**

7. Circular Letters, Inspection Reports and Correspondence

7.1 Whole School Evaluation Report – Kylemore College **(Appendix 7A)** was noted.
7.2 Subject Inspection Irish Report – Larkin CC **(Appendix 7B)** was noted.
7.3 Subject Inspection Mathematics Report – Ringsend College **(Appendix 7C)** was noted.
The Board were advised that inspection reports are circulated to FET leaders, who go through reports and work on findings.

8. Members' Business

9. Chairperson's Business

The Board were advised to return their Ethics declarations by the deadline of January 31st.

10. Next Meeting: Thursday 19th February 2025 at 5p.m.

The Board were informed that there is a plan for the training centres to have a presentation to the Board at their meeting in February.