



Youth Work Ireland

YWI Board Plan and Key Priorities

September 2020 – June 2021

Reviewed - 15th April 2021 Board Meeting

Note:

1. The board deals with a multiplicity of issues on an ongoing basis and will continue to do so. This priority list is intended to capture the top strategic priorities of the Board for September 2020 to June 2021. The organization continues to implement the current Strategic Plan and associated Operational Plan while the new Strategic Plan is being developed. In the meantime, *Principle 1: Advancing Charitable Purpose*, of the Charity Code of Governance requires boards to, ... “Agree an achievable plan for at least the next year that sets out what you will do to advance your purpose”. The High-level Board Plan and Key Priorities will be implemented and monitored by the board.
2. The role of the lead person is to ensure that the board has:
 - a. Set aside time to consider these key priorities,
 - b. Formulated actions to address the priorities.
 - c. Monitored the impact of the actions implemented.
 - d. Is provided with evidence of the impact of the actions by the CEO and Staff.
3. The plan will be reviewed at each board meeting and the status of each action will be recorded.

No	Strategic Priority	Lead Person(s) on Board	Date Reviewed	Status
1	<p>In the contest of COVID-19, designing, approving, implementing and reviewing plans to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring in as much as possible the wellness and safety of staff • Working with our Member Youth Service to ensure that young people are connected and informed. • Building a contingency plan to sustain the organisation into the future 	Catherine Durkin	15 th March 2021	<p>The Board approved a budget of €5000 to be invested in Staff safety and wellness at the Feb 18th Board Meeting.</p> <p>All staff are being retrained on our Staff Support and supervision system in order to provide greater support to our staff on an ongoing basis</p> <p>Revitalizing our Clubs and Volunteer network in the aftermath of the Pandemic identified as a key Board Priority at the 15th April Board meeting. We plan to work with MYs and colleagues in the sector to develop a Business plan to be submitted to the DCEDIY for significantly increased investment in this work area.</p> <p>A subgroup of the Board and Staff is currently working on the development of our new strategic plan. Staff met on 15th March to work on the Operational Plan for 2021 and it is currently being implemented.</p>
2	Delivering the New Strategic Plan for Youth Work Ireland and associated structural reform	Catherine Durkin	On-going	The board get a progress report on this work area at each of its meetings.
3	Addressing issues raised in the 2019 Climate Audit	Catherine Durkin and Tom Dunne		There have been 2 meetings of the Oversight group and the CEO and ACEO meet on a regular basis to ensure that the actions are being implemented. Reports on implementation are provided at staff meetings.

4	Implementation of the 2021 Cost Cutting Plan	F&GP		Complete
5	Monitoring the External Environment (Funding, Policy, Political, etc.) of Youth Work Ireland: Regular Risk assessment and identification of corrective strategic actions.	Michael Connolly (Company Secretary)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Risk reviewed and register updated after March Board meeting • Financial Risk reviewed and register updated after March Board meeting
6	Looking for opportunities to enhance our finances from Statutory, Philanthropic, Commercial and private sources.	Catherine Durkin		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Grants Groups review all funding opportunities on a regular basis when appropriate and consistent with the Strategic Plan, submit applications.
7	Membership Support -Compliance -Funding - Policy	Chris Fogarty		All Members SLAs have now been submitted. The compliance plan for 2021 was approved at the April 15 th Board meeting. The Grants Booklet for 2021 was also approved at the April 15 th Meeting.
8	Compliance Function of National Office	F&GP and Michael Connolly		Compliance Plan for 2021 was review and approved by the Board at April 15 th 2021 meeting.
9	Future Use of Premises	Catherine and Paul Keating		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sub-Group of the Board and Staff continue to meet on a regular to look at the future of the building. All options are under consideration. • Meeting have taken place with a number of experts and professionals with regard to financing the on-going maintenance of Dominick Street. • Application for funding of repairs to Dominick Street have been submitted to DCC • An application to the Heritage Council for the development of Conservation Plan for the Building has also been made.
10	Ensuring that all our activities are compliant with Government Advices on COVID-19 and that our Staff, Volunteers and Young people's health and safety continue to be a priority	Deborah Fakeye		Youth Work Ireland Guidance from Members is updated immediately following any updates to the DCEDIY National Guidance. It is made available on our Website. The CEO sits on the National Oversight Group who agreed changes to the DCEDIY National Guidance.

11	Advocating for maintenance of funding of all youth work Programmes from the statutory sector	Caroline Flannigan		A strong submission was made to the Consultation on the National Recovery and resilience plan currently being developed by Government.
12	Continuing to be the voice of young people and youth work in Public policy	Paul Keating and Jordan Cassells		In March a call went out to all MYSs to encourage young people to become part of our youth panel who will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Input into the youth consultation aspect of our new strategic plan 2. Review and update the YWI Youth Participation Policy
13	Continue to promote the European dimension of our work in the Federation	Catherine Durkin and Maurice Walsh		An evaluation our interface with European Networks and Project is currently underway and will be completed by late-April. The joint Working Group overseeing the MOU with Leargas in now meeting regularly and is developing a joint work plan. Leargas will deliver an information session to the RDs and staff on the new Erasmus+ programme on 20 th April.