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**Board Meeting 23rd April 2026
Minutes for Publication**



The main object for which the Youth Work Ireland is established is:

- To benefit the community through a planned programme of education designed for the purpose of aiding and enhancing the personal and social development of young persons through their voluntary participation, and which is complementary to their formal, academic, or vocational education and training; and is provided by voluntary youth work organisations. (Constitution of YWI)

Date: 23rd April 2026
Time: Board Meeting 5.00pm – 7.00pm
Venue: Online
Chair: Catherine Durkin

Expected : Catherine Durkin (Chairperson) Sean Roche, Leo Galvin, Doireann Walsh, Geraldine Hogarty, Jamie Mac Giolla Bháin, Deirdre Bermingham, Pat Hayes (Treasurer)
Apologies: Ger Conlon, Caolan Faux, Danielle Gayson (President), and Molly Hickey
Absent: Donal Kelly,
In Attendance: Patrick Burke CEO., Mary Horgan in attendance for Finance items.

	Agenda Item		Attachment / Link
1	a.	Welcome	The Chair welcomed members to the meeting. The Board extended its condolences to Ger Conlon on the recent death of his brother and also to Tom Dunne (CEO of INSYNC) on the recent passing of his father.
	b.	Quorum	She declared that a quorum was present for the meeting
	c.	Adoption of Agenda	The meeting reviewed the agenda, and it was then formally approved:
	d.	Conflict of Interest	The chair invited those present to declare if any item on the agenda constituted a conflict of interest for them. No such conflict was declared.
	e.	Conflict of Loyalties	The chair invited those present to declare if any item on the agenda constituted a conflict of loyalty for them. No such conflict was declared.
	f.	Apologies	Apologies from Ger Conlon, Caolan Faux, Molly Hickey and Danielle Gayson (President), were noted.

	g.	Ratifications	DocuSign vote on the adoption of the 2025 Budget and on the approval of the Grants Booklet for 2025
			DocuSign Vote the approval of new posts under our PEACE PLUS Programmes
	h.	Correspondence	The Chair informed the board that a letter had arrived from Clare Youth Services informing us that County Clare will be the EU Capital for Volunteering in 2027 and wondering if the Federation would hold a national event in Clare to help them celebrate this important year. Sean Roche spoke to the topic. The board agreed to propose holding the 2027 AGM and Convention in Ennis if this was acceptable to the members.
2	Minutes and Matters Arising		
	a.	Minutes of Board Meeting	The board reviewed the minutes of the meeting of 7 th Feb 2028 and the minutes for publication and they were both formally approved:
	c.	Matters Arising	There were no matters arising that were not on the agenda for today's meeting
	Finance		
3.	a.	Management Accounts <i>31st March 2026</i>	The HOF prepared a presentation on the finances of the organisation to 31 st March 2026. She reported that she had met the Treasures on this prior to the Governance meeting, that the Governance Subgroup had reviewed the accounts in detail as outlined in the minutes of that meeting which were provided to the board. Both income and expenditure are broadly in line with expectations.
	b.	Balance Sheet <i>31st March 2026</i>	All bank accounts have been fully reconciled March YTD. The debtors & creditors ledger has been checked, and we are following up with outstanding debt that is passed its due date.
	c.	Cashflow Report <i>31st March 2026</i>	The meeting reviewed and discussed the cash flow and agreed that there were no issues of concern.
	d.	Update from Grants Committee	Updated Grants Scheduled was reviewed by the meeting.
	e.	Minutes of Governance Subgroup 16 th April 2026	The minutes of the Governance Subgroup 16 th April 2026 were noted.
		Popal Audit	The meeting considered the following documents: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Audit Letter from Pobal dated 26th March 2026 2. The Youth Work Ireland Action Plan for the Implementation of the recommendations of the Audit 3. Th draft Letter from the Chair of YWI on behalf of the Board in response to the audit letter. <p>The CEO informed the meeting that he, the HOF and the ACEO had reviewed the Audit letter in detail and had prepared the action plan to address the issues raised in the audit. A number of categories of issues are addressed in the Action Plan.</p>
4	Strategic Considerations		

	a.	Youth Work For all Campaign	The meeting reviewed the <i>Youth Work for All</i> Campaign roadshow and welcomed the fact that more MYSs have now agreed definite dates. The CEO will liaise directly with Board members to check their availability to each of the stakeholder events.
	b.	Pre Budget Submission	A draft pre- budget submission is being prepared and will be circulated for comments to our key stakeholders for their comments in the coming days. Our goal is to have it complete and submitted by mid-May and prior to our meeting with the Minister for Education and Youth.
5	Operational		
	a.	Compliance Plan 2026	The approval of the Compliance Plan was deferred to the next meeting.
	b.	IT Support – Tender Doc	The meeting noted and reviewed the Tender Report of the recruitment of a new IT provider for the organisation. The winning tender, Quinn IT, were formally approved.
	c.	Feasibility Study on Future of Dominick Street as a European Youth Centre – Approval of tender document	The meeting reviewed and approved the draft tender document which was prepared by the CEO. Once approved it will be published on Tender.ie and on the Council of Europe list of approved consultants. We may also put it out on our Social Media, website etc. The document was formally approved.
6	Federal Governance		
	a.	Federal Leadership Group - Action Tracker	The very significant progress on the implementation of key agreed actions as outlined in the Action Tracker was very much welcomed by the board.
	b.	Induction for the new CEO KCYS scheduled	The meeting was provided with a verbal update on the arrangements for a full induction to the Federation for the Seamus Whitty, the new CEO of KCYS
	c.	AGM and Convention 2026	There was extensive discussion on the proposal for this year’s AGM and Convention. It was agreed that the broad theme of Youth Justice and the integrated youth services was an excellent theme. Trustees pointed out however that it would be important to emphasise with the membership that we wish to broaden out these beyond the Youth Diversion Programme and to include other work which is funded from other sources. The meeting approved the draft schedule for the day.
7	National Office Governance		
	a.	Induction for New Board members	The board were informed that the circulation of Board Induction Pack had taken place and that part of the induction one completed. We now need to set dates for part two now.
	b.	Skills Audit for current Board	This item was deferred to the Board residential

	c.	Code of Conduct updated April 2026	A draft of the updated Code of Conduct for the Board of Trustees was reviewed by the board. It was noted that in some places Trustees were called Directors and other places not. The CEO agreed to make this change and then the policy was formally approved. The evidence section of Calqrisk will be updated with the new version as will the bord induction pack.
	d.	National Youth Action Group update	The meeting reviewed the following two papers: 1. Information on advantages of join the NYAG 2. Some points for discussion by the board The following was agreed: We would consider both papers at the next meeting of the Board and we would then formally write to all boards informing theme of the nomination process onto the group.
	e.	Review of list of Company Policies for review in 2026	The meeting reviewed the list as they do at all meetings. It was agreed that the ongoing review programme was welcome.
8	HR		
		HR	The HR presentation was noted by the board
		Recruitment of ACEO	The CEO informed the board that preparations for this process were already underway and that a full report would be available at the residential. The Management Team are taking the opportunity to look at the task lists for all members of the team and deciding if they are currently placed in the correct area of responsibility. It is proposed to have the job description and personal specification prepared in the summer and to go to market (internal to the Federation and External) in September.
9	Any Other Business		
	a.	2026 Meetings and Trainings	Meeting Schedule 2026 was contained in board documents. Next Meeting Residential 16 th and 17 th May

Board Registration Record 2025 - 2026

13 current Members: Quorum is 50% +1 which is 7 Members present. Gender breakdown: 7 identify as male, 5 as female and 1 as non-binary.

		Code of Conduct Signed	Trustee Register of Interest	19 th July 2025 Cancelled	27 th Sept 2025	22 nd No 2025	7 th Feb 2026	23 rd Feb 2026	25 th April 2026
1	Catherine Durkin	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	Danielle Gayson	✓	✓		Apol	✓	✓	✓	Apo
3	Geraldine Hogarty	✓	✓		Apol	✓	Apo	X	✓
4	Sean Roche				✓	✓	Apo	Abs	✓
5	Donal Kelly	✓	✓			✓	Absent	X	Absent
6	Molly Hickey				Apol	✓	✓	✓	Apo
7	Leo Galvin	✓	N/A		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Pat Hayes				✓	Apol	✓	✓	✓
9	Doireann Walsh	✓			✓	✓	Apol	Apol	✓
10	Ger Conlon				✓	✓	Apol	✓	Apo
11	Caolan Faux				Apol	Apol	✓	✓	Apo
12	Jamie Mac Giolla Bháin					Appointed	✓	✓	✓
13	Deirdre Bermingham					Appointed	✓	✓	✓