**Meeting of the Cavan Resettlement Interagency Working Group held on 17 September 2020 at 10 am online via Microsoft Teams**

**In attendance:** Gráinne Boyle, Social Inclusion, Cavan County Council

Mary Rose Smith, Primary Care Network Manager, HSE

Joanne McCabe, Resettlement Worker

Hani Aliwi, Intercultural Worker

Elaine Nolan, Education Welfare Officer

Brendan Fitzgerald – Dept Justice

Eoin Doyle – DOS Cavan County Council

Bridie McBrearty, SEO Cavan County Council

Michael Mussi – AO Cavan County Council

Niall McKiernan, An Garda Síochána

Terry Hyland – Breffni Integrated

Elaine Nolan - Education Welfare Officer

**Apologies:** Cathal Grant – TUSLA

Maeve McDermott – HSE

Trisha Garland - CH01, Social Inclusion

Carmel Denning, DSP

Jenny Lynch CWO,

Alice McMahon, County Childcare Committee

1. Minutes of previous meeting of 15 July – proposed and approved
2. Update from Department Justice – Request that all ‘Cavan’ families are housed as soon as possible in order to close off on the current quota in Cavan.

There is a possible further arrival of Refugees from the Lebanon which may need to be considered for housing in the area.

The Refugee Resettlement Programme will be moving to within The Dept of Children shortly

1. Update from Agencies:
   * Mary Rose advised HSE has secured 2 further GP practices
   * Niall McKiernan - Gardai – nothing to report but advised that Garda Refugee Services are temporarily being run from Ballyconnell Garda station while Cavan Garda station undergoes refurbishment.
   * Noted that Jenny Lynch is seeking information on families to be resettled and that she had requested that information be provided in relation to SW prior to arrival
   * Brendan advised that information regarding Social Welfare will be provided by the Dept Justice
2. Reports – Implementing Partner

* Joanne updated the group on:
  + 1. Children’s schooling and adult education classes. COVID19 is having an effect on movement to and from classes and consequently online tutorials are being used to support this.
    2. COVID also impacting on volunteer participation, consequently, to date no families have been matched with volunteers.
    3. Issues with waiting times to book doctors appointments through GP practices is an issue currently. Mary Rose to flag this and look at options for improving this – possibly providing an email address so appointments can be booked this way.
    4. Home visits also affected by COVID 19 – the use of Zoom meetings is being used to maintain contact with families.
    5. Childcare and schooling for new families was raised. Elaine Nolan advised that there is the possibility that due to schools in Cavan being fully booked, schooling outside of Cavan Town might need to be considered- which may mean putting on transport for this purpose. General view was that this should be avoided if at all possible - Enquiries will be made and the group updated accordingly.
    6. In general things are working well – no major issues.
  + Bridie McBrearty asked whether there was anything more CCC could do in terms of social inclusion. Grainne Boyle advised that COVID19 was also affecting this area of work but continues to look at developing integration strategies in the long term. The option of using Sports Partnership is also being explored. Joanne is also looking at various funding streams for sports programmes.
  + Hani enquired about travel documentation and applying for Irish travel documentation. The Dept confirmed that this is possible and generally are valid for 1 year.

1. Resettlement – Bridie McBrearty advised that the current position on properties is that 3 of the 4 will be ready for occupation for occupation within days. The 4th still requires some works and is likely to be ready Mid October. It was noted that kitting out of properties will take longer than previously due to Covid19 requirements. Brendan to check that information provided on families is up to date and BMcB will circulate to the Group.

Terry Hyland offered the use of Breffni Integrated offices for registration, sign up etc on the chosen day of arrival. Was agreed to confirm this date at the next meeting.

1. AOB – none
2. Date of next Meeting: Thursday 24 September11.30 a.m. online via Microsoft Teams.