**Meeting of the Cavan Resettlement Interagency Working Group held on 26th February 2019 in the Council Chamber, Courthouse, Cavan at 11 a.m.**

**Present:** Deirdre Byrne, CMETB

Carmel Denning, DSP

Jenny Lynch, DSP

Nicola Chute, Garda Síochána

Noreen McGovern, County Childcare Committee

Michael Duffy, Dept. of Justice, Equality and Law Reform

Eoin Doyle, Director of Service

Bridie McBrearty, SEO

**Apologies:** Patricia Garland, HSE

Cathal Grant, Túsla

M. Duffy gave an overview of the Irish Refugee Protection Programme in Ireland and provided information on the role of the Resettlement Interagency Working Group. He advised that there are currently 19 no. such groups actively working in different counties with some 1800 people settled to date. He confirmed that 100 people have been allocated to Cavan and that arrangements now need to be made to have housing provided in areas where there is adequate transport, GP services, schools, English language, training and childcare facilities.

The next steps are to have fully furnished houses provided; the Resettlement Support Worker in place to support the community during the first year; schools identified; GPs organised; english language and cultural orientation for a period of 50 weeks (up to 20 hours per week) organised and childcare provided to facilitate participation in these classes.

In answering queries raised he clarified that the next step would be to identify suitable properties in areas where all the required services are available and advised that it was important that the scheduled plan for housing is developed in tandem with the employment of the Resettlement Support Worker.

E. Doyle confirmed that the likely family composition of the 100 people allocated to Cavan are: 20 families i.e. 2 couples, 2 couples with 1 child, 5 couples with 2 children, 4 couples with 3 children and 5 couples with 4 children.

Following discussion, it was agreed that there was a significant body of work to be undertaken on an interagency basis in the County for the next year. As a next step options for the provision of housing in the towns in the County would be examined for the family compositions identified and this would help determine if access to services would be available in the particular areas at the next meeting.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday, 10th April 2019 at 11 a.m. venue to be confirmed.