

Working Group to Report to Government on Improvements to the Protection Process, including Direct Provision and Supports to Asylum seekers

Position as at 16 June, 2016 in respect of the 173 Recommendations of the Working Group

<u>Total Recommendations</u>	<u>Implemented</u>	<u>Partially Implemented/In Progress</u>	<u>Further Consideration Required</u>
173	91	49	33

The current status of each recommendation is as outlined in the table below. For each recommendation the table includes the Recommendation code no. as listed in the Report, the text of the recommendation (abbreviated in some instances), the Department or Agency responsible for the recommendation, and, under Current Position, an indication (marked by an 'X') as to the current status of each recommendation. In certain areas noted, the passing of the International Protection Act 2015 supersedes the recommendation made (5 of the recommendations listed as 'Further Consideration Required' in the table above come under this criterion).

* Some footnotes have been included at the end of this document where additional information on implementation is considered useful.

Suggested Improvements to Existing Determination Process (78 Recommendations)

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Department/ Agency Responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented or In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.128	All persons awaiting final decisions for 5 years or more should be granted status as soon as possible subject to certain conditions	Department of Justice & Equality		X	
3.134	All persons in the system for 5 years or more with a deportation order should have it revoked	Department of Justice & Equality		X	
3.135	Leave to Remain should then be granted to those referred to in 3.134 as soon as possible,	Department of Justice & Equality		X	

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. /Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.163	The early enactment and implementation of a single procedure as a matter of urgency	Department of Justice & Equality		X	

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.166	Once the Single Procedure has been enacted, that the same principle of mechanisms aimed at addressing the situation of persons currently in the system 5 years or more should apply for persons who have cooperated with the process.	Department of Justice & Equality			X
	An annual review of the system should take place to guard against future backlogs	Department of Justice & Equality	X		
	The review should also look at the option of reducing the 5 year mark in future years as appropriate.	Department of Justice & Equality		X	

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.178	The State to opt-in to all instruments of the Common European Asylum System, unless clear and objectively justifiable reasons can be advanced not to	Department of Justice & Equality			X
	Where the State does not opt-in to an instrument for discreet reasons, the State should give full effect to the remaining provisions.	Department of Justice & Equality	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.192	The International Protection Bill 2015 should reflect the principle that the best interests of the child be a primary consideration in all actions concerning children.	Department of Justice & Equality	X		
3.199	The International Protection Bill should clearly provide that all children have the right to lodge an application for International Protection.	Department of Justice & Equality	X		
	In relation to separated children, work should be undertaken to clarify the position with regard to the protection process in practice and age assessment procedures	Tusla	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.203	The International Protection Bill should be further scrutinised to ensure the rights of the child to be heard are given sufficient expression and protection	Department of Justice & Equality	X		
3.210	The International Protection Bill 2015 should contain a provision requiring decision-makers who take decisions in relation to children and those who interview them to have received and continue to receive appropriate training	Department of Justice & Equality	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.213	The International Protection Bill 2015 should provide that the rights of the child are potentially relevant to evaluating a claim for refugee or subsidiary protection status where the applicant is a child.	Department of Justice & Equality	X		
3.216	The International Protection Bill 2015 when drafted should ensure that the Minister may continue to prioritise cases where appropriate by reference to the age of the applicant or his/her status as a separated child	Department of Justice & Equality	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.233	Transparent and competitive recruitment procedures for the protection determination bodies be maintained and developed	Department of Justice and Equality	X		
	Provision to be made for open recruitment procedures and relevant expertise in law.	Department of Justice and Equality	X		
	The preceding recent example of good practice for the knowledge and experience required in the recruitment process be followed to ensure that appropriate candidates are sought	Department of Justice and Equality	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.233	Adequate human resources be provided to the protection determination bodies	Department of Justice & Equality		X	
	The recruitment of dedicated legal support staff to the various agencies should be facilitated	Department of Justice & Equality	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.239	Quality tools and templates be maintained and continually updated in conjunction with legal support and training staff.	Office of Refugee Applications Commissioner (ORAC) Refugee Appeals Tribunal (RAT)	X		
	Mechanisms to review on a regular basis the quality of decision-making be maintained and further developed.	ORAC RAT	X		
	Sufficient resources be allocated to enable staff to manage quality systems and to coordinate this work with those in charge of training	Department of Justice & Equality	X		
	The determining bodies continue to engage with UNHCR, NGOs and other stakeholders to monitor the operation of the protection system.	ORAC RAT Tusla	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current System		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.247	Consideration be given to formalising in law the requirement that decision-makers be sufficiently trained.	Department of Justice & Equality	X		
	The development of closer ties between State protection agencies, academics, NGOs and legal practitioners be promoted to promote open dialogue on legal issues of concern.	Department of Justice & Equality	X		
	Adequate funding/ human resources be provided to the protection determination bodies in terms of dedicated training and legal support staff.	Department of Justice & Equality	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.255	Resources be provided to the Legal Aid Board to fund the roll out of Early Legal Advice to all applicants.	Department of Justice & Equality		X	
	The development of Quality Audit reviews of legal service provisions be continued and applied to the operation of the new early legal advice scheme under development	Department of Justice & Equality		X	
	The monitoring and review of the roll-out of early legal advice continue with regard to its effectiveness and relevant stakeholders be consulted regularly with regard to its enhanced operation	Legal Aid Board		X	

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.255	Applicants should be clearly informed of the availability of early legal advice and advised to seek it at the earliest possible stage, particularly before they complete the questionnaire	ORAC	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.260	Good practice in relation to training and the provision of child-sensitive procedures be maintained and developed further	Tusla, ORAC RAT	X		
	Inter-agency cooperation be maintained and further promoted to ensure the principle of best interest of the child can be effectively implemented	Tusla ORAC RAT HSE	X		
	An inter-agency review of procedures and practices relating to children occur regularly to ensure that procedures do not fall short and that best practice is maintained	Tusla HSE ORAC RAT RIA HSE	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
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3.263	ORAC, the Department of Justice & Equality, the Legal Aid Board and the RAT provide child-friendly materials containing relevant legal information for children.	ORAC RAT Legal Aid Board Department of Justice & Equality	X		
	Initiatives to make information about the protection process more accessible to children should be supported by the relevant agencies	Department of Justice & Equality ORAC RAT	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
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3.267	In order to ensure that children have access to the protection process, where an accompanied child has not made an application/has not been included in a protection application by their parent/guardian the law should be amended to provide that the child be deemed to be an applicant for protection.	Department of Justice & Equality	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.267	A presumption that children are included in their parent/guardian's application should apply, but in all cases the State and the applicant's legal advisor should assess whether this assumption is appropriate. If not, the child should be deemed to have made an application in their own name.	ORAC Legal Aid Board Department of Justice & Equality	X		
	A child who is incapable of expressing his or her own views should have access to the assistance of a representative.	Tusla	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.275	More formal procedures be introduced to ensure appropriate training is provided to all interpreters and a register be maintained to indicate who has completed this training in order to be eligible to work.	Department of Justice & Equality	X		
	A coordinated system of reforms to be implemented on a phased basis to move to a system where all interpreters in the protection process have appropriately accredited qualifications	Department of Education and Skills, HSE, Spirasi, City of Dublin Education and Training Board		X	

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.275	A system of accreditation to be established and maintained	Department of Education and Skills, HSE, Spirasi, City of Dublin Education and training Board		X	
	The tendering process and terms of contracts for interpreting firms should require them to prioritise or incentivise more those who have recognised accredited qualifications.	Department of Justice & Equality	X		
	All parties should ensure in selecting interpreters that there is no conflict of interest, or breaches of confidentiality	HSE, Department of Justice & Equality	X		
	Mechanisms should be put in place to carry out independent assessments of the	HSE, Department of Justice & Equality	X		

	standards of interpreting.				
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Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.286	An expert group consider the issue (recording of interviews/ hearings) in more detail in order to fully explore the implications and costs concerned and to conclude whether recording of interviews/ hearings should be implemented at first instance and/or appeal	Department of Justice & Equality			X

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.299	The continuance and further development of a method of prioritisation of cases for vulnerable applicants. Must be balanced with need to be sensitive to needs of vulnerable applicants	HSE Department of Justice & Equality ORAC	X		
	The introduction of vulnerability screening for all applicants beyond the scope of the current public health screening available to residents of Direct Provision Centres within 30 days after initial application is made	HSE			X

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.299	The establishment of formal mechanisms of referral in the case of disclosed or diagnosed vulnerabilities	HSE RIA	X		
	Follow-up and monitoring of persons who fall into the category of vulnerable should occur	HSE RIA	X		
	Public awareness and training programmes should be developed as part of such procedures to include legal reps, health professionals, NGO staff and other frontline workers	HSE		X	

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.299	That sufficient resources be made available at the earliest possible stage to both relevant NGO's and state agencies to facilitate early identification of vulnerability of applicants	HSE			X

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.312	Swift implementation of an adequately resourced single procedure to deliver decisions within a 12 month timeframe to create the conditions whereby Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) is more likely to be availed of	Department of Justice & Equality		X	
	Provision of support to the IOM, NGOs etc to raise awareness about AVR	Department of Justice & Equality RIA	X		
	Provision of support to the IOM for the delivery of AVR counselling services	Department of Justice & Equality	X		
	Where appropriate, the Legal Aid Board should include information about AVR as part of early legal advice	Legal Aid Board, Department of Justice & Equality	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.312	Inclusion of specific provision access to AVR at all stages of the single procedure and expansion of the time period before issuance of a Deportation Order when AVR can be availed of	Department of Justice & Equality	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.330	Swift implementation of an adequately resourced single procedure which creates the conditions whereby AVR may be taken up by a greater number of people and which includes provisions to address the 'trailing family member' and unregistered child issues	Department of Justice & Equality		X	
	Introduce a legal power of entry for the purposes of enforcing a deportation order	Department of Justice & Equality	X		
	In the future, consideration should be given on a case by case basis to apply the principles and solutions outlined at para. 3.134	Department of Justice & Equality			X

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.330	Continuation of efforts to reduce the backlog of judicial review cases at the courts	Department of Justice & Equality	X		
	Review human resource capacity at the GNIB and ensure adequate resources are in place for the implementation of deportation orders	Garda Commissioner		X	
	Establishment of procedures for the practical enforcement of deportation orders	Garda National Immigration Bureau	X		
	Maintenance of the current practice in Ireland under which separated children are not deported.	Department of Justice & Equality	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.340	Appropriate staffing levels be established and maintained with the necessary expertise at the Asylum Policy Unit and Statistics and Reporting units in INIS and other relevant bodies to enable them to carry out their functions effectively	Department of Justice & Equality	X		
	Unified data collection systems to be developed which can produce up-to-date data on an ongoing basis	Department of Justice & Equality		X	
	The good practice established through the Working Group of sharing and discussing information in a safe setting among key stakeholders be continued		X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.349	Careful transitional planning should be put in place to minimise any disruption in the transfer of responsibilities and the ongoing processing of applications	Department of Justice & Equality	X		
	Continuity of personnel and institutional arrangements should be maintained as much as possible in order to safeguard institutional memory and human capital	Department of Justice & Equality	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.349	Existing quality procedures and tools should be carried over to the Department of Justice and Equality when it takes over responsibility for case processing from ORAC	Department of Justice & Equality	X		
	All staff must be suitably trained and appropriately skilled to carry out protection determination work	Department of Justice & Equality	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.360	An advisory board be established, following and further developing the general scheme of the Refugee Advisory Board.	Department of Justice & Equality			X No longer applicable – Arising from provisions in the IP Act
	Any such independent advisory board established be given the necessary flexibility to consider all matters related and relevant to the operation of the system.	Department of Justice & Equality			X No longer applicable – Arising from provisions in the IP Act
	The International Protection Bill put in place appropriate governance structures to safeguard the independence of the IPAT.	Department of Justice & Equality	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.365	The State should give consideration to providing appropriate financial support to the NGO sector		X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
3.379	Applicants should be able to personally access information with State agencies on time frames applicable to the processing of their case.	ORAC RAT Department of Justice & Equality			X
	Any necessary IT and administrative supports should be provided for this purpose.	Department of Justice & Equality			X

**Suggested improvements to living conditions in Direct Provision Accommodation Centres
(51 Recommendations)**

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
4.58	In the short term, RIA should identify spare capacity with accommodation centres.	RIA		X	
	RIA should develop a set of criteria for assessing the bed capacity of accommodation units.	RIA			X
	Once the revised set of criteria has been developed, RIA should conduct a review of accommodation units.	RIA			X
	RIA should without delay review the minimum requirements in terms of furniture	RIA		X	

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
4.58	All single residents sharing rooms and all family units should be provided with an individual locker.	RIA	X		
	All centres should provide a secure storage facility for bulky items.	RIA	X		
	The revised set of criteria developed for assessing bed capacity should be incorporated in requests for tender for accommodation centres.	RIA			X

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
4.75	All families should have access to cooking facilities and their own private living space in so far as is practicable.	RIA		X	
	All existing centres that host families should install appropriate play, recreation and study facilities in so far as practicable.	RIA	X		
	All existing centres that host families should enter into partnership agreements with local leisure centres and sports clubs by the end of 2015	RIA	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
4.75	All requests for tender should specify the requirement for adequate recreational space (indoor and outdoor) for children and young people. A requirement to consult with the children and young people resident in the centre should be built into the specs	RIA	X* ₁		
	Notwithstanding references to 'as far as practicable' in the above, the facilities must be in line with the standards to be agreed under the recommendations at para. 4.226.	RIA			X

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
4.87	In the short term, RIA should ensure that available capacity in existing accommodation is brought on stream to reduce the number of single people sharing rooms.	RIA			X
	Single people should be given the right to apply for a single room after nine months.	RIA			X
	Existing centres for single people should be reconfigured to provide communal kitchens by end 2016 in so far as practicable.	RIA		X	
	All requests for tender for centres for single people should specify the requirement for communal kitchens.	RIA			X

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
4.102	RIA should engage a suitably qualified person to conduct a nutrition audit.	RIA HSE		X	
	Include an obligation in new contracts to consult with residents when planning the 28 day menu cycle.	RIA	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
4.111	In the case of existing providers that provide a transport service for residents, the plan should be reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of residents	RIA	X		
	In the case of existing providers who do not already offer a transport service, an obligation should be included in the new contracts to draw up a transport plan	RIA	X		
	It should be ensured that future requests for tender specify that centres are sought in locations with easy access to recreational and other services	RIA		X	

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
4.111	Compliance with these contractual obligations should be monitored as part of an expanded inspection process referred to at para.4.226.	RIA		X	

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
4.122	RIA to conduct a review of the security arrangements across the accommodation stock.	RIA		X	
	Include in all new contracts an obligation to ensure that security arrangements are proportionate to the security risks that have been identified.	RIA		X	
	Include within all new contracts an obligations that security personnel must have undergone awareness training in equality and diversity issues before they come on-site	RIA		X	

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
4.122	Ensure that rooms without CCTV are available for receiving visitors etc.	RIA	X		
	Compliance with these contractual obligations should be monitored as part of an expanded inspection process referred to at para. 4.226.	RIA		X	

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
4.135	The remit of the Office of the Ombudsman and the Office of the Ombudsman for Children should be extended to complaints from Direct Provision residents.	Department of Justice & Equality		X	
	Recourse to the two Offices should be available to a complainant who is dissatisfied with the final outcome of the RIA complaints procedure	Department of Justice & Equality		X	

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
4.135	In relation to its complaint procedure, RIA should: * appoint a designated officer who is not involved in operational matters * review the complaints procedure * engage in renewed efforts to build confidence and trust * engage in efforts to ensure that centre management buy into the importance of an open culture.	RIA		X * ₂	

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
4.146	RIA should continue its policy of providing detailed written reasons for involuntary transfers.	RIA	X		
	RIA should define what constitutes an involuntary transfer and record voluntary and involuntary transfers and include details in its annual report.	RIA		X	

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
4.155	The contract with providers should include additional requirements in relation to the qualities required of a centre manager.	RIA		X	
	RIA should arrange seminars on a regular basis for managers to allow for the sharing of experiences and the dissemination of best practice.	RIA		X	
	RIA should ensure that managers and staff members have undergone diversity training in equality and diversity issues.	RIA		X	
	Encouraging and facilitating the setting up of residents' committees should be included within the manager's role.	RIA	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
4.172	RIA should review its proposal in relation to guests in private quarters in terms of its proportionality.	RIA	X* ₃		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
4.199	Tusla – Child and Family Agency should liaise with RIA to develop a welfare strategy within RIA, to advice on policy and practice matters and to liaise on individual cases as required	Tusla, RIA		X	
	RIA, in conjunction with Tusla, should review its House Rules in so far as they require children under 14 years of age to be attended at all times within accommodation centres	RIA Tusla,	X* ₄		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
4.199	Tusla, HSE and RIA should collaborate to provide onsite preventative and early intervention services and to gather data on national trends of referrals to services	Tusla HSE RIA	X		
	RIA should continue to have consideration for child safety when assigning different categories of residents to a Centre	RIA	X		
	Tusla and HSE should identify a named social worker to be identified as the lead social worker for a Centre in their area	HSE, Tusla		X	

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
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4.199	Professional staff of HSE and Tusla working in centres should have access to cultural diversity training, interpreting services.	HSE, Tusla	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
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4.210	The existing voluntary health screening service provided by the HSE at Baleskin Reception Centre should be reviewed and strengthened so as to facilitate a multi-disciplinary assessment of all protection applicants within 30 days of the lodging of an application for protection.	HSE		X	
	The outcome of the assessment should be taken into account in the protection determination process	HSE ORAC RAT			X

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
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4.210	Follow-up and monitoring of persons who fall into the category of 'vulnerable' should occur on an on-going basis.	HSE			X
	The responsible unit should be enabled to communicate in a timely fashion with RIA.	HSE			X
	Efforts should be made by RIA, HSE, centre management and others to take steps to encourage applicants to avail of the assessment.	HSE			X

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
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4.226	The Minister for Justice and Equality should establish a standard-setting committee to reflect fully government policy across all areas of service in Direct Provision.	Department of Justice & Equality			X
	The Minister for Justice and Equality should establish an inspectorate to carry out inspections in DP centres.	Department of Justice & Equality			X
	The Inspectorate, should separately make regular reports to the Minister on general matters relating to the Welfare of Residents in DP centres.	Department of Justice & Equality			X

Suggested improvements to supports for persons in the system (44 recommendations)

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
5.30	The DP weekly allowance should be increased from €19.10 to €38.74 for adults and from €9.60 to €29.80 for children.	Department of Social Protection Department of Justice and Equality		X	
	The Department of Social Protection should reinstate on-site Community Welfare Service to residents in DP accommodation centres.	Department of Social Protection		X	
	The Department of Social Protection should continue to make every effort to ensure Designated Persons in the Community Welfare Service strive towards consistency when administering the ENP.	Department of Social Protection	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
5.49	Provision for access to the labour market for protection applicants who are awaiting a first instance decision for nine months or more.	Department of Justice and Equality			X No longer applicable – Arising from provisions in the IP Act
	Any permission given to access the labour market, should continue until the final determination of the protection claim.	Department of Justice and Equality			X No longer applicable – Arising from provisions in the IP Act
	A protection applicant who has the right work and is successful in finding work, should be subject to a means test to determine an appropriate contribution to his/her accommodation and other services	Department of Justice and Equality Department of Social Protection			X No longer applicable – Arising from provisions in the IP Act

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
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5.63	All DP centres that host families should be required to provide or facilitate a full-time serviced after school homework club.	RIA	X		
	An awareness initiative should be rolled out to ensure that Boards of Management and Principals are familiar with challenges facing children in DP and their families.	Department of Education and Skills		X	

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
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5.70	The extension of student supports for third-level and post leaving certificate courses to persons who are protection applicants or at the leave to remain stage, have been in the Irish school system for 5 years or more and satisfy the relevant academic and other eligibility criteria.	Department of Education and Skills	X* ₅		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
5.74	Orientation classes should be available to all protection applicants within the first month.	RIA			X
	Access to English language classes and Adult Literacy classes within a month of their application for protection.	Department of Education and Skills	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
5.82	An initiative to apply the EU fee rate for higher education courses to persons in the system 5 years of more.	Department of Education and Skills	X* ₅		
	After six months in the protection process, adult protection applicants should be provided with information in relation to their eligibility to access further education or other courses.	Department of Education and Skills	X		
	Notwithstanding any restriction on access to the labour market, work experience components in educational courses should not act as a bar to access to such courses.	Department of Education and Skills	X* ₆		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
5.82	Persons who are in the system for two years or more should be eligible to apply for access to further education and vocational training courses.	Department of Education and Skills			X
	Remuneration received during a work placement undertaken should be allowed for the duration of the placement in lieu of the DPA	Department of Education and Skills			X

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
5.82	A forum or fora of professional recognition bodies and trade associations etc should be convened to devise a scheme to allow access to internships, apprenticeships and development opportunities for protection applicants, those at leave to remain stage	Department of Education and Skills			X

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
5.100	Recommends that the HSE initiative to exempt residents from prescription charges.	HSE, Department of Justice and Equality	X		
	Recommends that a health promotion initiative be targeted at residents of DP centres to inform them about access to breast screening etc free of charge.	HSE	X		
	Strongly urges that a review by the relevant organisations of services for persons in the system experiencing a crisis pregnancy be undertaken immediately	HSE	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
5.100	Welcomes the development by RIA of a Sexual and Gender-based Violence Policy and recommends that it be rolled out as soon as possible.	RIA	X		
	Recommends that an initiative be put in train to facilitate access by persons in the system to information and services concerning sexual and reproductive health and family planning.	HSE	X		
	Recommends that an adequately trained and resourced interpreting service be put in place	HSE		X	

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
5.100	Notes the actions identified in the HSE's Mental Health Division's Operational Plan. All centre staff should be provided with mental health awareness training.	HSE RIA		X	
	Recommends that sensitivity training on issues that impact on vulnerable groups should be provided to all relevant DP staff.	RIA		X	
	Recommends that information leaflets etc be provided in every centre and kept up to date	HSE RIA	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
5.100	Recommends that residents be able to access appropriate transport provision or financial assistance to attend medical appointments.	HSE Department of Social Protection, RIA		X	
	Recommends that the HSE National Operational Plan should include an account of progress on the implementation of the health-related recommendations.	HSE	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
5.113	Organisations that provide services relevant to persons in the system should consider training staff in LGBT issues to sensitively deal with queries so as to encourage disclosure.	HSE		X	
	Designated persons in the CWS should exercise discretion when administering the ENP scheme	Department of Social Protection	X		
	Information by the way of posters, pamphlets etc be available in all centres	RIA	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
5.113	Notes that RIA has a safety statement and recommends that all Direct Provision centres should have safety statements and dignity and respect policies incorporating the rights of LGBT people prominently displayed.	RIA	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
5.134	Tusla should ensure its equity of care principle is applied equally to separated children in aftercare planning and supports.	Tusla	X		
	The aftercare plan for a separated child who is awaiting a decision re. their status should accommodate them in a DP centre located near their foster care.	Tusla RIA	X		
	Training and support provided to foster carers of separated children.	Tusla	X		
	DCYA should convene a stakeholder group to consider supports for separated children.	Department of Children and Youth Affairs	X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
5.152	The Government should give consideration to including persons awaiting a decision on their protection or LTR case in its national integration strategy.	Department of Justice & Equality			X
	Relevant Government Departments should make funding available to assist the integration of persons awaiting a decision.	Department of Justice & Equality			X
	Every DP centre should be contractually obliged to encourage and facilitate linkages with the local community	RIA		X	

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
5.152	Work to develop community linkages should include a focus on developing reciprocal linkages with residents participating in activities and vice versa.	RIA		X	

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
5.169	The Minister of State should convene a Taskforce to roll out a consistent integration plan for the legacy cohort in Direct Provision who have been or will be granted status and to address transitional support needs		X		

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
5.186	The IHREC should consider the inclusion, in the preparation of its strategic plan, the inclusion of education and training on equality and diversity issues for public bodies engaged in the system	IHREC	X		
	Persons who provide health and other services to persons receive on-going training in cultural competency and sensitivity; Training to be provided for accredited interpreters; Training to include skill development for dealing with people who do not have English as a first language	IHREC HSE, Department of Social Protection, Department of Education and Skills, RIA		X	

Recommendation Code	Recommendation	Dept. / Agency responsible	Current Position		
			Implemented	Partially Implemented/In Progress	Further Consideration Required
5.186	Urges An Garda Síochána to continue to ensure the effectiveness of its various initiatives by, <i>inter alia</i> , naming a 'Diversity Champion' at a senior level; ensuring that the Garda Racial Integration and Diversity Office is adequately resourced; promoting awareness of its Ethnic and LGBT Liaison Officer Services among protection-seeking community; and rolling out diversity training and cultural awareness programmes at all levels	An Garda Síochána		X	

Footnotes:

X*₁ – This recommendation has been implemented where possible. RIA advises that in some self catering facilities it may not be possible to provide indoor recreational space for the simple reason that such space is not available.

X*₂ - In progress. RIA amended its House Rules in 2015 and these rules now include an Independent Appeals Officer. It is intended that residents in accommodation centres will have access to the Offices of the Ombudsman and Ombudsman for Children following amendments to legislation. These Offices will examine complaints which do not cover the process for seeking international protection.

X*₃– Reviewed as part of the amended RIA House Rules in 2015. This does not preclude a further review taking place, as appropriate, in the future.

X*₄ - Reviewed as part of the amended RIA House Rules in 2015. This does not preclude a further review taking place, as appropriate, in the future.

X*₅ – Pilot support scheme for the 2015/2016 academic year established by the Department of Education and Skills. A second pilot year for the academic year 2016/2017 was announced by the Minister for Education and Skills on 3rd June 2016.

X*₆ – In view of the restriction on access to the labour market, this recommendation has been implemented in so far as it can be. Any work experience component of higher education or PLC courses will not act as a barrier to access to such courses for those who are deemed eligible under the new pilot student support scheme for the 2015-16 academic year. Access to other FET and Training Courses is contingent on the right to access the labour market which is not provided for in the International Protection Act 2015.