



msletb

Bord Oideachais agus Oiliúna
Mhaigh Eo, Shligigh agus Liatroma
Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim
Education and Training Board



Provider Profile

November 2020

Prepared by MSLETB for the
forthcoming Inaugural Review of
Quality Assurance in Education and
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QQI

Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann
Quality and Qualifications Ireland

Background

Mayo Sligo and Leitrim Education and Training Board (MSLETB) is one of the sixteen Education and Training Boards (ETBs) established in 2013 by the Education and Training Boards Act. MSLETB was established following the amalgamation of Co. Mayo VEC, Co. Sligo VEC and Co. Leitrim VEC. The Sligo Training Centre and the Ballina Training Centre (formerly under the auspices of FÁS and subsequently SOLAS) transferred to MSLETB on 1st July 2014 to fully constitute the new organisation. MSLETB has the largest geographical area of all the sixteen Education and Training Boards, with a total area of 9011 km². The population of the three counties, as per the 2016 Census, is as follows: Mayo, 130,597; Sligo, 65,535; and Leitrim 32,044; with a combined total population of 228,086.



Mission, Values, Strategic Focus and Key Performance Indicators

The stated vision and mission for MSLETB is to provide innovative high-quality education and FET services and programmes that provide learners with transformative opportunities for life and living in the West of Ireland. MSLETB's FET provision offers a wide variety of lifelong education and training opportunities. FET is for anyone who is over 16 and wants to learn new skills or enhance existing skills to get the right job, progress to third level or support the achievement of personal goals.

The organisation has identified core values which underpin the work of MSLETB and relate to the work of the organisation with learners, staff and the community. Alongside each of these values, corresponding behaviours have been mapped, outlining how the organisation puts the values into effect:



Quality

We will:

- ▶ Strive for excellence in all that we do
- ▶ Actively seek and recognise new standards and ways to improve our service
- ▶ Evaluate the suitability of our systems, structures and programmes to identify and implement opportunities for improvement



Professional

We will:

- ▶ Treat everyone with respect and in a professional manner in accordance to our governance principles
- ▶ Promote a positive image both inside and outside of the organisation
- ▶ Encourage and engage in continuous development
- ▶ Reflect on our work and revise our work practices



Collaboration

We will:

- ▶ Empower all those in MSLETB to work in a collaborative manner to maximise the value of the service we provide our learners
- ▶ Trust all those in MSLETB to act with integrity and behave ethically
- ▶ Seek out opportunities to enhance communication with our learners and colleagues



Proactive

We will:

- ▶ Look to be solution focused, flexible and open to new ideas
- ▶ Endeavour to respond who everybody who contacts the ETB
- ▶ Use relevant data and endeavour to make our service responsive in meeting the needs of our people

In MSLETB's Strategic Performance Agreement 2018-2020¹, the organisation has set itself a number of strategic objectives which are linked to the ETB's overall strategic goals:

1 Skills for the Economy

MSLETB FET Provision will address the current and future needs of learners, jobseekers, employers and employees and will contribute to national economic development.

Strategic Objectives

1.1	Install an appropriate advisory infrastructure to ensure that the relevant provision is informed directly by employers and reflects/responds to emerging labour market challenges.
1.2	Provide further education and training programmes for a diverse range of individuals and communities with a focus on long-term unemployed people and unemployed young people.
1.3	Develop and implement programmes under the new apprenticeship system.
1.4	Provide further education and training programmes for employees supported by a new FET Employee Development Strategy.
1.5	Provide further education and training programmes to assist people to start and sustain their own business.

¹https://www.solas.ie/f/70398/x/6076cc25d7/14717_solas_etb_mayo_sligo_leitrim_web.pdf

2 Active Inclusion

Through active inclusion, MSLETB's FET services will endeavour to support all people to access FET services that enable them to reach their potential and enable them to contribute to society.

Strategic Objectives

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 2.1 | Support Active Inclusion across FET. |
| 2.2 | Devise and implement a strategy to promote literacy and numeracy across FET. |

3 Quality Provision

MSLETB FET will provide high quality education and training programmes and will meet the appropriate national and international quality standards.

Strategic Objectives

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 3.1 | Respond to the needs of learners, employers and communities. |
| 3.2 | Ensure excellence in FET programme development. |
| 3.3 | Enhance adult educational guidance services within FET and extend it to all who engage with FET, including employees. |
| 3.4 | Develop standards for staff qualifications in the FET sector. |
| 3.5 | Provide effective pathways for FET graduates to Levels 7 and 8 within the higher education sector. |
| 3.6 | Provide suitable and appropriate facilities for further education and training. |
| 3.7 | Ensure that all MSLETB staff delivering further education and training programmes have current and relevant qualifications and skills. |
| 3.8 | Ensure that all MSLETB FET provision and delivery complies with the highest standards of corporate governance and compliance. |

4 Outcomes-based Planning & Funding

MSLETB FET provision will be planned and funded based on objective analysis of needs and evidence of social and economic impact.

Strategic Objectives

4.1	Implement a new integrated and coordinated FET planning model.
4.2	Ensure excellence in FET programme development.
4.3	Introduce performance-related funding (appropriate to the type of FET provision and defined strategic outcomes).
4.4	Evaluate the effectiveness of all current FET provision.

5 Standing of FET

MSLETB will ensure a valued learning path leading to agreed employment, career and developmental, personal and social options.

Strategic Objectives

5.1	Promote and provide high quality FET response to the needs of industry and learners.
5.2	Conduct an economic and social impact study of MSLETB FET Provision.

Governance and Management Structures

MSLETB is a statutory authority with responsibility for education, training and youth work. MSLETB provides Post Primary Education, Further Education and Training and Youth Services in addition to other community-based education programmes and services in its region. Governance structures in MSLETB are at both ETB level and centre level.

► Organistaional Structure



► MSLETB Board

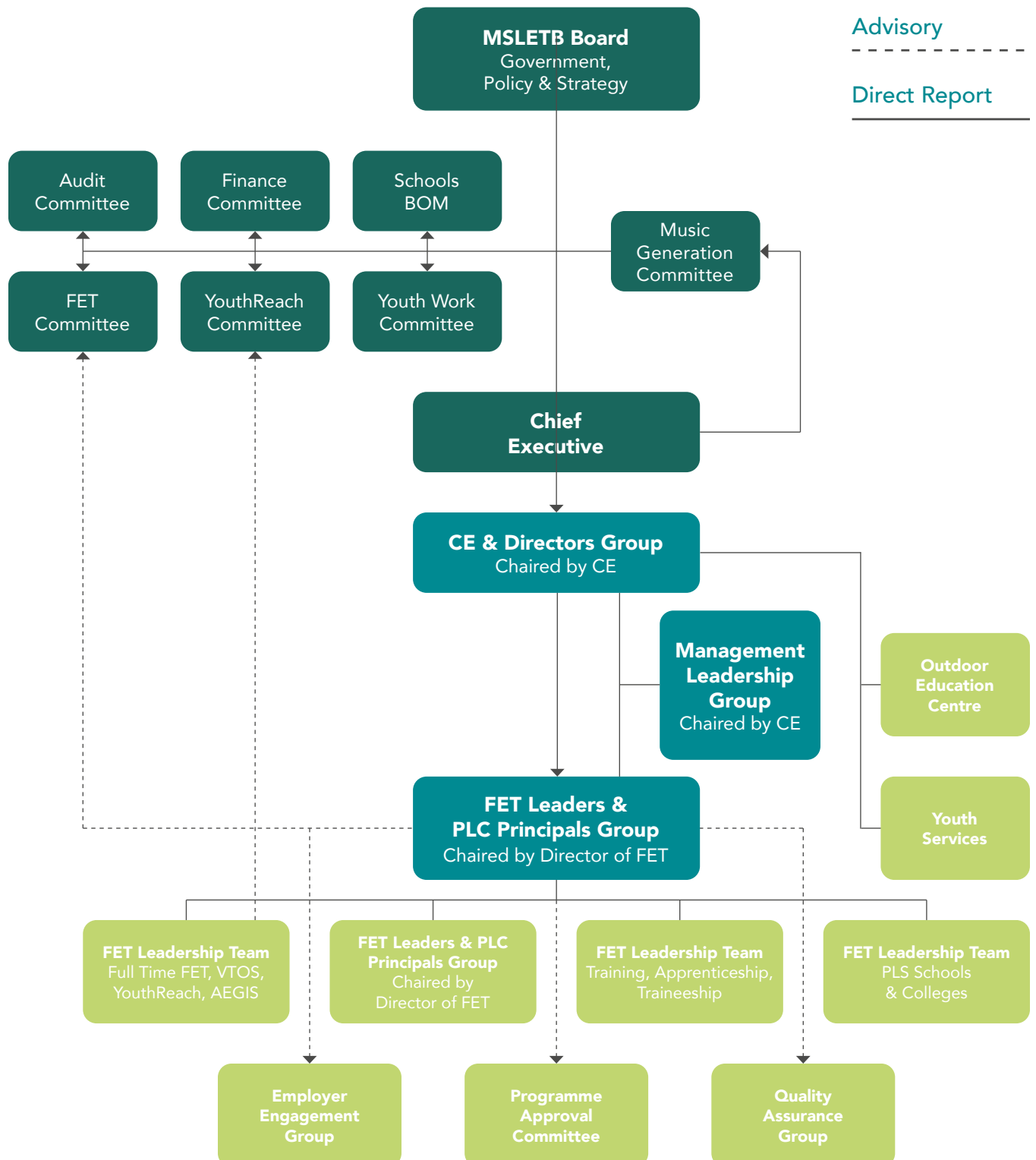
MSLETB is governed by a Board consisting of 21 members. Reporting to the Board, the CE is the Accounting Officer for MSLETB and holds responsibility for the executive management of the organisation. The Board has established a number of committees (including Finance and Audit Committees, Boards of Management and other committees as required) in line with relevant legislation. These committees are composed of Board members and / or agreed other representation. The Board has overall responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal control is maintained and operated.



MSLETB Board Members

► FET Governance Structure

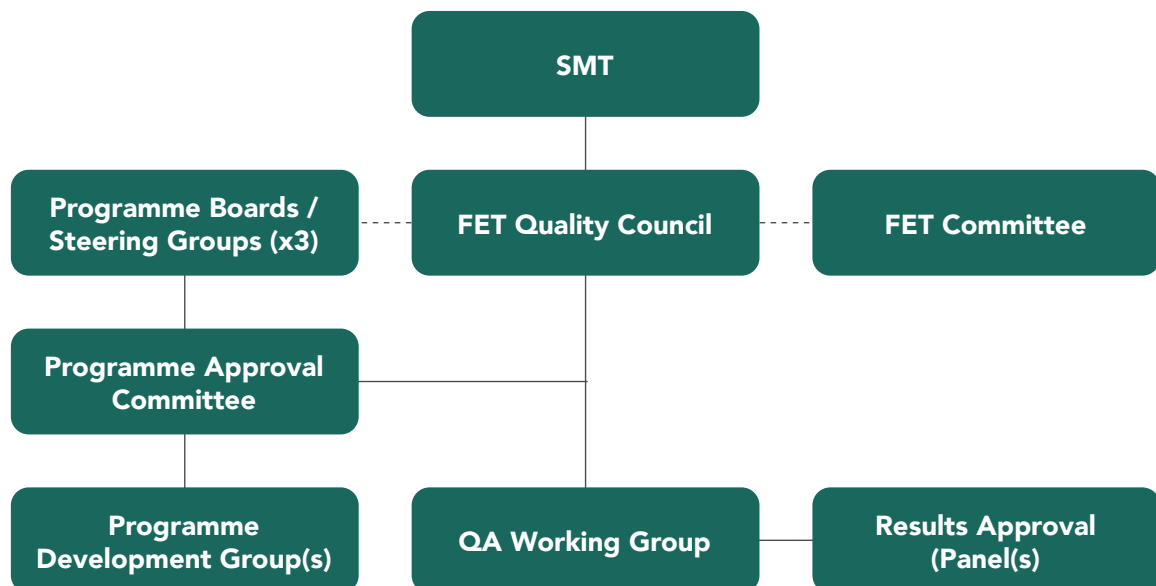
The executive governance and oversight structure of MSLETB FET is illustrated in the diagram below:



► FET QA Governance

The purpose of MSLETB's FET QA governance structure is to ensure that teaching, learning and assessment, including work-based learning and assessment, are quality assured. In 2019, MSLETB's FET QA governance structure was formally approved and oversees all aspects of MSLETB's quality assurance provision. This includes QQI and non-QQI awards.

The overarching governance group is the FET Quality Council. A number of governance groups report to the FET Quality Council including the Programme Approval Committee and the QA Working Group. The governance structure reflects both the obligations noted in the Statutory Quality Assurance Guidelines published by QQI and MSLETB's aspirations for a quality-led system that is transparent, documented and accessible to all stakeholders.



Approach to Quality

Continuous improvement to the quality of all activities across MSLETB is the responsibility of every staff member through their own individual efforts and through the various teams and units in the organisation. MSLETB activities are informed by the standards outlined in:

- ▶ Core Statutory Quality Assurance Guidelines (2016)
- ▶ Sector-Specific Statutory Quality Assurance Guidelines for Education and Training Boards (ETBs) (2017)
- ▶ Topic Specific Statutory Quality Assurance Guidelines for Providers of Statutory Apprenticeship Programmes (2016)
- ▶ Topic Specific Statutory Quality Assurance Guidelines for Providers of Blended Learning Programmes (2018)

In addition, activities are guided by a number of additional external guidelines published by QQI and other awarding bodies.

MSLETB is committed to a learner-centre approach to education and training and is committed to developing an integrated QA system, in line with its Strategy Statement 2018-2022². MSLETB recognise the importance of providing quality assured education and training services to prospective and current learners, staff and other stakeholders. MSLETB also recognise the importance of obtaining and acting on feedback from all learners, staff and key stakeholders to continuously improve programme quality.

²<https://msletb.ie/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Final-MSLETB-Strategy-Statement-WEB-VERSION.pdf>

► Quality Assurance Policy Statement

The core quality assurance principles guiding the approach, outlined on the previous page, which are subject to ongoing development and improvement, are set out in MSLETB's Quality Assurance Policy Statement³:

- MSLETB is responsible for the quality of all of its education and training provision and its assurance.
- MSLETB will demonstrate publicly its quality activities.
- A quality culture will be fostered throughout the MSLETB FET landscape in order to instil both individual and organisational commitment in recognising that quality assurance is a tool that drives continuous improvement.
- Education and training exist principally for the purpose of enabling people to learn and, accordingly, programmes of education and training will be designed, implemented and evaluated with learning outcomes in mind.
- Approved QA procedures and those procedures which must have regard for QQI guidelines, will be implemented and monitored for effectiveness.
- QA systems will make appropriate use of external persons, who are independent of MSLETB and are expertly qualified, in order to make relevant national and international comparisons.
- QA systems will enhance transparency and processes will be developed through which MSLETB can demonstrate its accountability.
- MSLETB's QA system will support public confidence in its capacity to provide programmes to agreed standards and will publish QA outputs where feasible.

³<https://msletb.ie/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/MSLETB-Quality-Assurance-Policy-Statement-0518V1-1.pdf>

Regional Profile

According to the CSO Business Demography figures, available at the end of 2018, there were 826 enterprises employing in excess of 34,000 employees across the three counties of Mayo, Sligo & Leitrim. This is in addition to the nearly 20,000 individuals engaged in active enterprises with less than 10 employees.

The main sectors of employment in the region are Health and Social Work (14%), Wholesale & Retail (13%), Education (9%) and Industry (13%). Labour market participation in Mayo, Sligo & Leitrim is 58%. This is significantly below the national average of 62% and is heavily influenced by the rurality of the region, particularly in Mayo where over 70% of the population live in rural areas. Of the 70 electoral divisions across the country that are deemed unemployment blackspots, five are in Co. Mayo.

For more information see the infographic provided on last page of this profile.

Active enterprises with 10 or more employees in MSLETB (2018)

MSLETB	10-50	50-250	>250
Enterprises	703	108	15
Employees	13,744	9,468	10,850

Unemployment Figures in MSLETB (31 December 2019)

MSLETB	Male	Female	Total
Under 25	579	379	958
Over 25	5,299	4,204	9,503
Total	5,878	4,583	10,461

► Mayo



According to CSO data, Mayo's largest employers are in Wholesale & Retail, Industry and Health. Castlebar, Ballina and Westport are the main employment areas with a number of international companies operating in the pharmaceutical, Medtech and software sectors. Allergan (Westport), Baxter (Castlebar), Hollister (Ballina), Meissner (Castlebar) and Lionbridge (Ballina) are just some of the major companies with operations in the county.

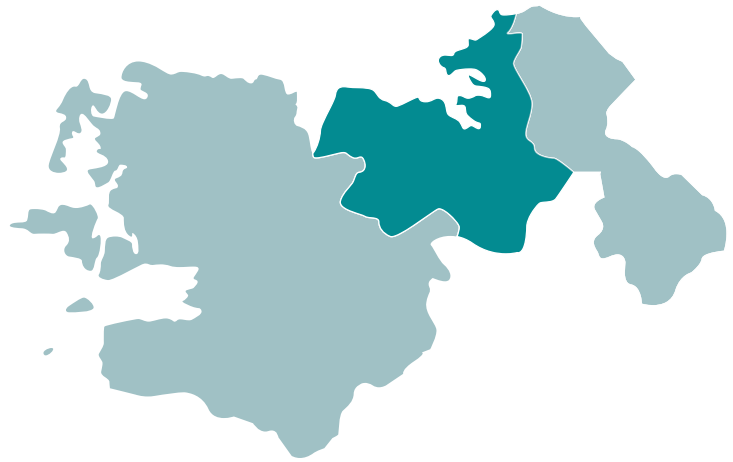
Active enterprises with 10 or more employees in Mayo (2018)

MAYO	10-50	50-250	>250
Enterprises	462	63	9
Employees	8,704	5,310	5,775

Unemployment Figures (31 December 2019)

MAYO	Male	Female	Total
Under 25	309	222	531
Over 25	3,106	2,642	5,748
Total	3,415	2,864	6,279

► Sligo



According to CSO data, Sligo's largest employers are Health, Wholesale & Retail, Industry and Education. Sligo University Hospital and the Institute of Technology Sligo account for a significant proportion of those in employment in the county than elsewhere in the ETB region. Organisations in technology, life sciences and engineering sectors, including international/global companies such as Abbott Laboratories, AbbVie, Avenue GW Plastic Phillips-Medsize, G Bruss GmbH, US tech firm Overstock and indigenous employers such as SL Controls, Ward Automation and LotusWorks are just some of the organisations sustaining employment in Sligo

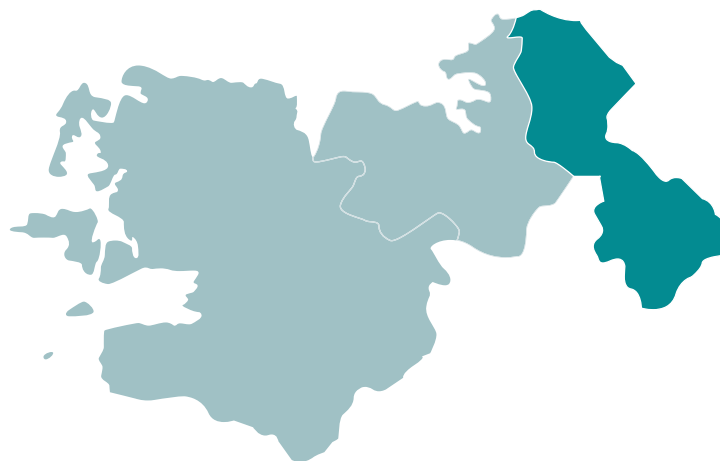
Active enterprises with 10 or more employees in Sligo (2018)

SLIGO	10-50	50-250	>250
Enterprises	209	33	5
Employees	4,065	2,917	4,760

Unemployment Figures (31 December 2019)

SLIGO	Male	Female	Total
Under 25	170	109	279
Over 25	1,393	918	2,311
Total	1,563	1,027	2,590

► Leitrim



According to CSO data, Leitrim's largest employers are Health, Wholesale & Retail and Industry. Health is notably more important to the county than elsewhere; partly influenced by commuting to health sector employers in county Sligo. Notable employers in Leitrim include AvantCard (Carrick on Shannon), Mirror Controls International (Manorhamilton), Elastometall (Manorhamilton), Cora Systems & VistaMed (Carrick-on-Shannon).

Active enterprises with 10 or more employees in Leitrim (2018)

LEITRIM	10-50	50-250	>250
Enterprises	32	12	1
Employees	975	1,241	315

Unemployment Figures (31 December 2019)

LEITRIM	Male	Female	Total
Under 25	100	48	148
Over 25	800	644	1,444
Total	900	692	1,592

Provision Profile

Education and training programmes, other than those at mainstream second level (Junior Certificate, Leaving Certificate and Transition year), comprise MSLETB's FET provision. FET programmes are broadly categorised as full-time or part-time with a range of provision offered across the three counties.

a) ETB Centres

Centre Name	Centre Type	Full Time	%	Part Time	%	Total	%
ADULT LITERACY SERVICE, LEITRIM							
Adult Literacy Service, Leitrim	Adult Literacy Groups	21	0.15%	296	2.15%	317	2.30%
	ESOL		0.00%	141	1.02%	141	1.02%
	ITABE		0.00%	20	0.15%	20	0.15%
	Skills for Work		0.00%	34	0.25%	34	0.25%
Adult Literacy Service, Leitrim Total		21	0.15%	491	3.57%	512	3.72%
ADULT LITERACY SERVICE, SLIGO							
Adult Literacy Service, Sligo	Adult Literacy Groups		0.00%	611	4.44%	611	4.44%
	ESOL		0.00%	273	1.98%	273	1.98%
	ITABE		0.00%	29	0.21%	29	0.21%
	Refugee Resettlement		0.00%	13	0.09%	13	0.09%
Adult Literacy Service, Sligo Total			0.00%	926	6.73%	926	6.73%
BALLINA TRAINING CENTRE							
Ballina Training Centre	Evening Training	70	0.51%	102	0.74%	172	1.25%
	Local Training Initiatives	84	0.61%		0.00%	84	0.61%
	Skills to Advance	1	0.01%	22	0.16%	23	0.17%
	Specialist Training Providers	160	1.16%		0.00%	160	1.16%
	Specific Skills Training	124	0.90%		0.00%	124	0.90%
	Traineeship Training	44	0.32%		0.00%	44	0.32%
Ballina Training Centre Total		483	3.51%	124	0.90%	607	4.41%
BTEI CENTRE, LEITRIM							
BTEI Centre, Leitrim	BTEI Groups	43	0.31%	325	2.36%	368	2.67%

Centre Name	Centre Type	Full Time	%	Part Time	%	Total	%
BTEI CENTRE, SLIGO							
BTEI Centre, Sligo	BTEI Groups		0.00%	1,165	8.46%	1,165	8.46%
CASTLEBAR COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION (DAVITT COLLEGE)							
Castlebar College of Further Education (Davitt College)	PLC	230	1.67%		0.00%	230	1.67%
COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTRE, LEITRIM							
Community Education Centre, Leitrim	Community Education	2	0.01%	663	4.82%	665	4.83%
COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTRE, MAYO							
Community Education Centre, Mayo	Community Education	12	0.09%	2,169	15.75%	2,181	15.84%
COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTRE, SLIGO							
Community Education Centre, Sligo	Community Education	47	0.34%	1,084	7.87%	1,131	8.21%
	FET Cooperation Hours		0.00%	22	0.16%	22	0.16%
Community Education Centre, Sligo Total		47	0.34%	1,106	8.03%	1,153	8.37%
DRUMSHANBO VOCATIONAL SCHOOL							
Drumshanbo Vocational School	PLC	16	0.12%		0.00%	16	0.12%
EAST AND SOUTH MAYO ETB PART TIME SERVICE							
East and South Mayo ETB Part Time Service	Adult Literacy Groups	34	0.25%	201	1.46%	235	1.71%
	BTEI Groups	35	0.25%	679	4.93%	714	5.19%
	ESOL	8	0.06%	181	1.31%	189	1.37%
	ITABE		0.00%	42	0.31%	42	0.31%
	Refugee Resettlement	6	0.04%	6	0.04%	12	0.09%
East and South Mayo ETB Part Time Service Total	83	0.60%	1,109	8.05%	1,192	8.66%	
FURTHER EDUCATION CENTRE (BALLINA)							
Further Education Centre (Ballina)	Adult Literacy Groups		0.00%	261	1.90%	261	1.90%
	BTEI Groups	8	0.06%	407	2.96%	415	3.01%
	ESOL		0.00%	127	0.92%	127	0.92%
	ITABE		0.00%	14	0.10%	14	0.10%
	Refugee Resettlement		0.00%	16	0.12%	16	0.12%
Further Education Centre (Ballina) Total		8	0.06%	825	5.99%	833	6.05%

Centre Name	Centre Type	Full Time	%	Part Time	%	Total	%
FURTHER EDUCATION CENTRE (CASTLEBAR)							
Further Education Centre (Castlebar)	Adult Literacy Groups		0.00%	424	3.08%	424	3.08%
	BTEI Groups		0.00%	655	4.76%	655	4.76%
	ESOL		0.00%	218	1.58%	218	1.58%
	ITABE		0.00%	41	0.30%	41	0.30%
	Refugee Resettlement		0.00%	11	0.08%	11	0.08%
Further Education Centre (Castlebar) Total			0.00%	1,349	9.80%	1,349	9.80%
LEITRIM TRAINING							
Leitrim Training	Community Training Centres	11	0.08%		0.00%	11	0.08%
	Local Training Initiatives	50	0.36%		0.00%	50	0.36%
	Specialist Training Providers	12	0.09%		0.00%	12	0.09%
	Specific Skills Training	46	0.33%		0.00%	46	0.33%
Leitrim Training Total		119	0.86%		0.00%	119	0.86%
	Refugee Resettlement	6	0.04%	6	0.04%	12	0.09%
LEITRIM YOUTHREACH							
Leitrim Youthreach	Youthreach	25	0.18%		0.00%	25	0.18%
LOUGH ALLEN COLLEGE							
Lough Allen College	PLC	34	0.25%		0.00%	34	0.25%
MAYO ADULT EDUCATIONAL GUIDANCE SERVICE							
Mayo Adult Educational Guidance Service	Other Funding		0.00%	1	0.01%	1	0.01%
MOYNE COLLEGE							
Moyne College	PLC	24	0.17%		0.00%	24	0.17%
NORTH CONNAUGHT COLLEGE							
North Connaught College	PLC	101	0.73%		0.00%	101	0.73%
SKILLS FOR WORK CENTRE MAYO							
Skills for Work Centre Mayo	Skills for Work		0.00%	297	2.16%	297	2.16%
SKILLS FOR WORK CENTRE SLIGO							
Skills for Work Centre Sligo	Skills for Work		0.00%	42	0.31%	42	0.31%

Centre Name	Centre Type	Full Time	%	Part Time	%	Total	%
SLIGO COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION (BALLINODE CC)							
Sligo College of Further Education (Ballinode CC)	PLC	538	3.91%		0.00%	538	3.91%
SLIGO TRAINING CENTRE							
Sligo Training Centre	Community Training Centres	72	0.52%		0.00%	72	0.52%
	Evening Training	24	0.17%	226	1.64%	250	1.82%
	Local Training Initiatives	28	0.20%		0.00%	28	0.20%
	Skills to Advance	76	0.55%		0.00%	76	0.55%
	Specialist Training Providers	61	0.44%		0.00%	61	0.44%
	Specific Skills Training	187	1.36%	34	0.25%	221	1.61%
	Traineeship Training	69	0.50%		0.00%	69	0.50%
Sligo Training Centre Total		517	3.76%	260	1.89%	777	5.64%
ST. TIERNAN'S COLLEGE							
St. Tiernan's College	PLC	6	0.04%		0.00%	6	0.04%
VTOS BELMULLET							
VTOS Belmullet	VTOS Core	8	0.06%		0.00%	8	0.06%
VTOS, ACHILL							
VTOS, Achill	VTOS Core	12	0.09%		0.00%	12	0.09%
VTOS, BALLINA							
VTOS, Ballina	VTOS Core	32	0.23%		0.00%	32	0.23%
VTOS, BALLINROBE							
VTOS, Ballinrobe	VTOS Core	18	0.13%		0.00%	18	0.13%
VTOS, CASTLEBAR							
VTOS, Castlebar	VTOS Core	37	0.27%		0.00%	37	0.27%
VTOS, DRUMSHANBO							
VTOS, Drumshanbo	VTOS Core	55	0.40%		0.00%	55	0.40%
VTOS, SLIGO							
VTOS, Sligo	VTOS Core	38	0.28%		0.00%	38	0.28%

Centre Name	Centre Type	Full Time	%	Part Time	%	Total	%
VTOS, SWINFORD							
VTOS, Swinford	VTOS Core	27	0.20%		0.00%	27	0.20%
VTOS, TUBBERCURRY							
VTOS, Tubbercurry	VTOS Core	22	0.16%		0.00%	22	0.16%
WESTPORT COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION							
Westport College of Further Education	PLC	197	1.43%		0.00%	197	1.43%
YOUTHREACH, BALLINA							
Youthreach, Ballina	Youthreach	47	0.34%		0.00%	47	0.34%
YOUTHREACH, BALLINROBE							
Youthreach, Ballinrobe	Youthreach	42	0.31%		0.00%	42	0.31%
YOUTHREACH, KILTIMAGH							
Youthreach, Kiltimagh	Youthreach	26	0.19%		0.00%	26	0.19%
YOUTHREACH, SLIGO							
Youthreach, Sligo	Youthreach	46	0.33%		0.00%	46	0.33%
GRAND TOTAL		2,916	21.18%	10,852	78.82%	13,768	100%

b) Contracted/External Provision with which the ETB is Engaged

	NO. OF CENTRES/ LOCATIONS	F/T LEARNERS (2019)		P/T LEARNERS (2019)		TOTAL LEARNERS	
		NO.	%	NO.	%	NO.	%
Local Training Initiative	8	284	28%	0	0%	284	28%
Traineeship	5	149	15%	0	0%	149	15%
Community Training Centre	2	90	9%	0	0%	90	9%
Specialist Training Provider	2	103	10%	0	0%	103	10%
Skills to Advance	2	33	3%	27	3%	60	6%
Specific Skills Training	7	255	25%	34	3%	289	29%
FET Cooperation Hours	3	0	0%	33	3%	33	3%
TOTAL	29	914	91%	94	9%	1,008	100%

c) ETB Services

SERVICE	DESCRIPTION
Adult Educational Guidance and Information Service	This service provides assistance to people in making informed educational career and life choices. Adults start from where they left off in education and the Guidance Service provides support as they make choices and progress with their return to education and training.
Adult Basic Education Service	The Adult Basic Education Service provides literacy, numeracy and computer tuition in a supportive environment for adults who need to develop their skills in reading, writing, spelling, Maths and using everyday technology. It is aimed at those who left school early, are out of education a long time or have specific learning difficulties. The service welcomes adult learners of all ages and backgrounds.
Youth Services	MSLETB Youth Services support the provision, coordination, administration and assessment of youth work services in the Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim area.
Employer Engagement	MSLETB has established an Employer Engagement Group and an employer database. An employer services brochure, information video and a full directory of services can be found on www.msletb.ie and www.msletbtrainingcentres.ie
Services to Business	An employment focused service for employers offering an advisory service to businesses considering apprenticeship.
Music Generation	Music Generation Mayo, Music Generation Sligo and Music Generation Leitrim are music education services for children and young people, aged 0-18 years. They are part of Music Generation – Ireland's National Music Education Programme.

d) ETB Provision by Field of Learning

FIELDS OF LEARNING	BENEFICIARIES 2017	BENEFICIARIES 2018	BENEFICIARIES 2019
Agriculture, Horticulture and Mariculture	189	140	108
Animal Science	174	189	209
Arts & Crafts	228	168	183
Built Environment	168	111	85
Business, Administration	956	999	912
Core ICT	693	400	0
Core Personal	3,494	4,439	0
Engineering	38	42	476
Engineering (Electrical)	0		5,010
Engineering (IT)	11	9	38
Engineering (Mechanical)	114	134	5
Engineering (Transport)	38	30	131
Entrepreneurship	7		25
Financial Services	75	111	124

d) ETB Provision by Field of Learning

FIELDS OF LEARNING	BENEFICIARIES 2017	BENEFICIARIES 2018	BENEFICIARIES 2019
Food and Beverage	187	171	120
General Learning	3,746	4,062	0
Hairdressing, Beauty and Complementary Therapies	391	310	4,267
Health, Family & other Social Services	2,478	2,669	319
Information Technology	114	136	3,098
Management	49	37	160
Manufacturing	38	51	64
Media, Graphics, Communications	112	92	54
Natural Resources			71
Research and Education-Training	71	55	42
Sales & Marketing	50	40	54
Science and Technology	43	41	49
Security Guarding & Emergency Services	93	52	53
Sport and Leisure	142	131	156
Tourism	127	132	177
Transport, Distribution & Logistics	123	150	222
Web Development & Design	73	61	49
TOTAL	14,049	14,962	16,261

e) ETB Provision by NFQ Level

NFQ LEVEL	BENEFICIARIES 2017	BENEFICIARIES 2018	BENEFICIARIES 2019
1	189	226	135
2	286	356	647
3	1,082	1,488	1,344
4	834	836	717
5	2,938	3,512	3,727
6	393	524	706
TOTAL	5,722	6,942	7,276

f) Awarding Bodies

AWARDING BODY	AWARDS 2017		AWARDS 2018		AWARDS 2019	
	NO.	%	NO.	%	NO.	% ²⁶
Adobe	18	0.3%				
Approved EN Certifying Body	92	1.5%	125	1.7%	120	1.5%
ATI	28	0.5%	49	0.7%	65	0.8%
CIDESCO		0.0%	0	0.0%	8	0.1%
City & Guilds	101	1.6%	37	0.5%	39	0.5%
CompTIA		0.0%	15	0.2%	10	0.1%
Department of Education & Skills	80	1.3%	157	2.1%	173	2.2%
ICS SKILLS	107	1.7%	137	1.9%	138	1.8%
Mountaineering Ireland (BOS)	15	0.2%	7	0.1%		
ITEC		0.0%		0.0%	12	0.2%
MICROSOFT		0.0%		0.0%	28	0.4%
PHECC	21	0.3%	38	0.5%	60	0.8%
QQI-FE	5586	91.1%	6766	91.6%	7,039	90.2%
RSA (Road Safety Authority)	85	1.4%	57	0.8%	37	0.5%
RTITB		0.0%		0.0%	72	0.9%
GRAND TOTAL	6133		7388		7,801	

Learner Profile

MSLETB caters for a diverse range of learners from various backgrounds and across different age groups.

a) Gender Profile

LEARNER GENDER	2017	2018	2019
Female	9,089	9,851	10,797
Male	4,960	5,111	5,465
Other/Not Specified			
TOTAL	14,049	14,962	16,262

b) Age Profile

LEARNER AGE	2017	2018	2019
0-14	2	3	2
15-24	3,371	3,246	3,428
25-44	4,599	4,786	5,252
45-64	4,375	4,839	5,349
Over 64	1,702	2,088	2,231
TOTAL	14,049	14,962	16,262

c) Nationality Profile

REGION	2018	2019
Ireland	8346	9699
GB	422	521
Europe	1019	1192
Africa	456	582
Asia	665	632
North America	48	67
Oceania	8	19
South America	89	127
Antarctica	3	0
Unknown	3564	3121
TOTAL	14,620	15,960

Staffing Profile

MSLETB employ approximately 600 FET staff, including over 400 learning practitioners (teachers, tutors, instructors, resource workers). Many staff members provide services across multiple programme types and could variously be identified as a teacher/tutor/instructor at a particular point in time depending on the actual programme being delivered. MSLETB will undertake a more detailed analysis of staff designations for inclusion in the forthcoming self-evaluation report.

a) Staffing Overview

STAFF RESOURCES	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	NUMBER
Director of FET		1
Area Training Manager		1
Assistant Manager (Training Services)		4
Adult Education Officers		3
Director of Outdoor Education		1
Provision Coordinators	Adult Literacy Organisers	3.5
	Back to Education Initiative Coordinators	3.5
	Community Education Facilitators	3
	Youthreach Coordinators	5
	VTOS Coordinators	8
Principal	Stand-alone PLCs	2
	Dual Provision (Post-Primary & PLC)	7
Deputy Principal	Directly managing PLC	3
Quality Management Systems Team Lead		1
QA Support Officer		1
Training Standards Officers		3
Assistant Training Standards Officers		2
Learning Practitioners (full-time & part-time)	Teachers	70*
	Tutors (including Music Generation)	309
	Instructors	62
	Resource Workers	10*

STAFF RESOURCES	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	NUMBER
Professional Development Coordinator		1
TEL Coordinator/Support Officer		1
PLSS and FET Reporting Coordinator		4
Regional ICT Coordinator		3
Night Classes Coordinator		1
Senior Training Advisor		3.5
Community Officer/Contracted Training Officer		5
Administration		29
Psychotherapist		2
Adult Guidance Counsellor		8
Adult Guidance Information Officer		2
General Assistants		7
Caretakers		3
Youth Officer		1
Music Generation Development Officer		1
Employer Engagement Officer		3
Recruitment Officer		2

*Estimated staff numbers as of 30.11.2020

b) Teacher/Learner Ratio

Operational guidelines for a number of FET provisions give general guidance in relation to teacher/learner ratios including:

- ▶ Vocational & Employee Skills Development: Level 3 & 4 = 1:7/12;
Level 5 = 1:10/14
- ▶ Core Skills: 6:1 for group classes; and 1:1
- ▶ PLC: 1:19
- ▶ VTOS: 1:10
- ▶ Youthreach: 1:5/10
- ▶ Apprenticeship/Workshops: 1:14
- ▶ Non-practically based programmes (Training Centre): 1:20

Collaborations and Partnerships

MSLETB engages with an extensive network of stakeholders at national, regional and local levels.

► National Agencies



SOLAS

SOLAS as the Further Education and Training Authority is responsible for the funding of a wide range of FET programmes nationally the majority of which are delivered through the sixteen ETBs. As part of this funding MSLETB has to submit annual funding allocation requests to SOLAS, which include performance targets, such as inputs, outputs, certification, budget requests and qualitative data on specific programmatic areas such as engagement with employers, active inclusion, continued improvements etc. MSLETB reports on these targets to SOLAS three times a year through the FARR database and submission of financial reports.

Currently, MSLETB run three craft apprenticeships for which SOLAS has statutory responsibility (as coordinating provider) and there are two Senior Training Advisors employed by MSLETB who act as authorised officers (on behalf of SOLAS) and approve the companies based in the ETB region in which apprentices can be employed.

**QQI**Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann
Quality and Qualifications Ireland

QQI

With its establishment in 2014, MSLETB inherited four legacy quality assurance systems with QQI (Co. Mayo QA Agreement, Co. Sligo QA Agreement, Co. Leitrim QA Agreement, and the training centres' Transitional Quality Assurance System or TQAS). In 2018, QQI formally approved the quality assurance procedures of MSLETB, and the implementation and effectiveness of these procedures are subject to cyclical review with the aim of developing a single integrated QA system. In addition to delivering QQI certification across its centres, in which learners achieved 7,625 awards in 2019 (1,328 Major Awards; 696 Special Purpose Awards; and 5,600 Minor Awards), MSLETB engages closely with QQI in a number of programme development and quality improvement projects.

An Roinn Coimirce Sóisialaí
Department of Social Protection

Department of Social Protection

The North West and West Divisions of the Department of Social Protection (DSP) are strategic partners for MSLETB. At an operational level, MSLETB work closely with DSP Intreo offices to provide appropriate activation opportunities for job seekers. MSLETB is the primary referral agency used by Intreo for training and education programmes. MSLETB also work collaboratively with its employer engagement colleagues in DSP to meet local employer needs. Since 2016, an interagency agreement between MSLETB and DSP has been in place to manage this relationship.

► Regional Partners



MSLETB actively participates in the Western Regional Skills Forum and the North West Regional Skills Forum. Regional Skills Fora were created as part of the Government's National Skills Strategy to provide opportunities for employers and the education and training system to work together to meet emerging skills needs in their regions. Membership of the Fora include Industry/ enterprise/employer representatives and regional FET & HE providers.

The Regional Skills Fora meet regularly to engage in structured dialogue between enterprise sectors and education and training providers to focus on identifying skills requirements and building customised solutions responsive to regional business needs. The Fora provide a single contact point in each region to help employers connect with the range of services and supports available across the ETB region.

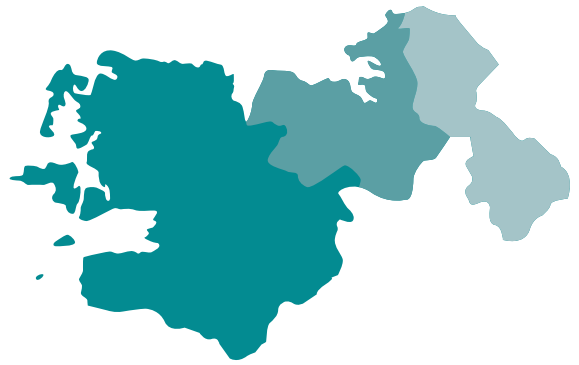
► Other Partnerships/Networks

MSLETB engages with a number of organisations nationally, regionally and locally for networking and collaboration purposes including those identified below:





msletb
Bord Oideachais agus Oiliúna
Mhaigh Eo, Shligigh agus Liatroma
Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim
Education and Training Board



MSLETB Profile

