

Data and Research to Support Teacher Supply Planning

Meeting of the Working Group

2.30pm, Thursday 9th July 2020

Via WebEx

In attendance:

Chris Kelly, DES Teacher Education Policy (Teacher Supply) (Chair)
Deirdre Cullen, DES Statistics Section
Steven Lucas, DES Statistics Section
Jason Kelly, DES Inspectorate
Rachel O'Brien, Central Policy Unit
Louise Callinan, HEA
Maria Fitzgerald, Teaching Council
Sarah Kearns, DES ITE & Professional Development
Shelagh Graham, ETBI
Padraig Maloney, DES Payroll

Also in attendance:

Conor McCourt, DES Teacher Education Policy (Teacher Supply)
Damien O'Neill, DES Teacher Education Policy (Teacher Supply)

Apologies:

Deirdre Shanley, DES Asst. Secretary
Paul McCarthy, DES IT Payroll
Laura Watts, Central Policy Unit
Karen Eastwood Lovett, Teaching Council
Lewis Purser, IUA
Deirdre O'Donoghue, Primary Management Bodies
Michael Redmond, Post Primary Management Bodies
Jill Fannin, Forward Planning
Merrilyn Goos, HEIs
Manuela Heinz, HEIs

1. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting of the 11th June 2020 were agreed.

2. Revised Technical Report: update

It was noted that the revised technical report has been submitted to the Minister for her consideration.

3. Proposed changes to post primary subject teacher projection model

The Group was updated on the revised post-primary subject teacher demand model (Projecting demand for teachers by subject (v4)), and discussed some of the underlying assumptions of the model.

It was noted that the revised model takes the following factors into consideration:

- Current pupil teacher ratio
- Predicted retirements
- Predicted resignations
- Current unmet demand

The following points were agreed:

- Teacher Education Policy and the Teaching Council to establish Hibernia College graduate numbers and subject specialisms with a view to factoring these figures into the model.
- Statistics Section to conduct further analysis on transition year data and circulate to group members for their observations.
- A narrative to be included in the paper regarding the use of transition year data in the model.
- The inclusion of graduate numbers from the new upskilling programmes to be explored further.
- Members of the group to review the revised model and submit their observations by 14th July.

4. Potential use of the Teaching Council register to hold additional data to support teacher supply planning.

It was noted that teachers can register with multiple subjects on the Teaching Council register.

It was agreed that the register is a key repository of information to support teacher supply planning and the Council will continue to explore the options available and to engage further with the Department to progress this issue.

5. Central Policy Unit: update on spending reviews

The Group was updated by Central Policy Unit on the spending review papers that are currently being drafted in the following areas:

- Analysis of substitution trends
- Retirement & lump-sum projections

- Teacher allocations: two papers, one on process and one on forecasting (both jointly with D/Per)

The following points were noted:

- It is intended that the first teacher allocation paper will be completed in July 2020 and the second later in the year.
- The paper on teacher allocations is of particular relevance to the teacher supply work being undertaken by Stats Section.

It was agreed that CPU would liaise with Stats Section regarding the teacher allocation spending review paper.

8. AOB

The Group considered a number of issues arising from the Covid-19 public health emergency and their implications for teacher supply, including: increased substitutable absences; additional allocations of teachers; career break, parental leave and retirement trends.

9. Date of next meeting

To be confirmed

**Teacher Supply Secretariat
July 2020**