Data and Research to Support Teacher Supply Planning

Meeting of the Working Group

2.30pm, Wednesday 21 October 2020 Via WebEx

In attendance:

Chris Kelly, Teacher Education Policy (Teacher Supply) (Chair)
Deirdre Cullen, Statistics Section
Steven Lucas, Statistics Section
Jason Kelly, Inspectorate
Laura Watts, Central Policy Unit
Rachel O'Brien, Central Policy Unit
Louise Callinan, HEA
Maria Fitzgerald, Teaching Council
Sarah Kearns, ITE & Professional Development
Deirdre O'Donoghue, Primary Management Bodies
Michael Redmond, Post Primary Management Bodies
Jill Fannin, Forward Planning

Also in attendance:

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

Apologies:

Deirdre Shanley, Asst. Secretary
Padraig Maloney, Payroll
Paul McCarthy, IT Payroll
Karen Eastwood Lovett, Teaching Council
Lewis Purser, IUA
Merrilyn Goos, HEIs
Manuela Heinz, HEIs
Shelagh Graham, ETBI

1. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting of the 22nd September 2020 were agreed.

2. Revised Technical Report: update

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

3. Post primary subject teacher projection model

The Group considered the latest papers on the post primary subject teacher model prepared by Statistics Section. The following points were noted:

- Student projection figures to 2038 have been revised in line with revised projections prepared by the department.
- The re-classification of PPOD data (JC/TY/LC/LCVP) has resulted in a more accurate categorisation and standardisation of subjects.
- Following review, SEC examination data is now more closely aligned to the PPOD data.
- The model has been updated with revised ITE graduate and teacher retirement numbers.

The following points were agreed:

- The Group will consider the latest papers from Statistics Section, including on the use of data on out-of-field teachers and the classification of PPOD data, and provide observations to Teacher Supply Secretariat.
- Supply data for JC Science teachers will be based on LC Biology supply data.
- The Teaching Council will provide data on the numbers of registered teachers who qualified outside of the State. It was noted that these teachers are picked up in the TC registrations and so are implicitly included in the model.
- It was agreed to bring the report to the Implementation group for feedback / comment.

Revised/ new subject criteria.

The following points were noted:

- Revised/ new post-primary subject criteria have been approved by the Minister including in Computer Science and Politics and Society.
- The timing of the adoption of the criteria will be decided by the Teaching Council

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

It was noted that Teacher Supply Secretariat has met with the Teaching Council to consider this issue.

It was agreed that Teacher Supply Secretariat and Statistics Unit will meet to discuss the range of data that might be held in a centralised database to support future teacher supply planning.

5. Central Policy Unit: update on spending reviews

The Group was updated by Central Policy Unit on the spending review papers 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).

It was noted that the first paper on teacher allocations has recently been published and it was agreed that this paper would be circulated to the group.

6. Teacher Supply Action Plan: data actions

It was noted that the Action Plan is a working document.

It was agreed that the Group would review the data actions in the Teacher Supply Action Plan and provide observations to Teacher Supply Secretariat.

7. AOB

Potential to take account of policy changes and possible future changes in the demand / supply model

It was noted that the demand/supply model has the capacity to allow the testing of various policy scenarios, as required.

It was agreed to consider including a wider value range of certain variables in future reports.

8. Date of next meeting

November 16th 2020 @2.30pm.

Teacher Supply Secretariat October 2020