

Minutes of the Cross-Departmental Oversight Committee Meeting
(Atypical Workers Permission Scheme (Non-EEA Crew))
20th of November 2019

Location: Agriculture House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

Chair: Kevin Moriarty (**Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine**)

Attendees: **Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)** (Dr. Deirdre Kelleher, Brian Batt)
Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation (DBEI) (Tara Coogan),
Department of Justice and Equality (DJE) (Aengus Casey, Kevin Kavanagh),
Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (DTTS) (Michael Kennedy),
Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection (DEASP) (Paul Norris).

1. Minutes of previous meeting

- a. The minutes of the Oversight Committee meeting held on the 17th of September 2019, circulated in advance of the meeting, were discussed. The minutes were agreed by all present.
(*These minutes are now available on the DAFM website, as agreed.*)

2. Matters Arising

- a. There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

3. Mediation Agreement

- a. DBEI updated the Committee in relation to Commitment 13 of the Agreement, which recommends that the WRC adjudicators have jurisdiction over violations of Regulation 6 of SI 709 of 2003, This will be delivered by way of primary legislation and it is expected to have heads of bill prepared in relation to this in Q1 2020.
- b. DJE informed the Committee that the information letter for fishers, prepared to fulfil Commitment 10 of the Agreement, had been issued to the legal representatives of all participants of the Scheme on the 18th of October 2019 and this commitment could now be marked complete. Also, in fulfilment of Commitment 8, hard copies of the Employment Rights Explained in the fisher's language were now being issued with all letters of approval.
- c. DTTAS informed the Committee that, in relation to Commitments 14 & 15, a Statutory Instrument was now with the Office of the Parliamentary Counsel and was complete from the DTTAS perspective.

4. Correspondence with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

- a. DJE requested that in future should correspondence, of an all encompassing nature regarding the ATW Scheme, be received from international bodies, such as the UN, that the Oversight Committee Secretariat would act as Response Co-ordinator liaising with the relevant ATW Scheme related Departments/Agencies for their input. DJE was of the opinion that such a co-ordinated approach would better ensure the inclusion and representation of all parties in the response. The DJE request was agreed to by the Oversight Committee.

5. Review of Stakeholder submissions

- a. No submission had been received for this meeting from any stakeholder organisation.

6. Current uptake of Scheme

- a. DJE advised that, as of Friday the 15th of November 2019, there are 224 potentially valid letters of approval currently in circulation
- b. DAFM advised that, as of Monday the 18th of November 2019, there were 247 live pre - approval applications.

7. Next Meeting

- a. A date of 26th of February 2019 was agreed for the next meeting of the Oversight Committee.

8. AOB

- a. DBEI informed the Committee that Mr. Brandt Wagner, Unit Head, Transport and Maritime , Sectoral Policies Department ILO, in addition to speaking very favourably on the Ireland response to the issue of migrant fishers, was interested in discussing the matter further with the Oversight Committee in the course of a proposed 2020 visit.
DBEI undertook to forward the communication to the Oversight Committee Secretariat for further consideration.
- b. That concluded the business of the meeting.

