

# Expert Group on the Role of Ventilation in Reducing Transmission of COVID-19

## Meeting 8

2pm Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021

(By Videoconference)

### Present

Prof John Wenger (Chair)	UCC
Dr Marie Coggins	NUIG
Dr Laura Heavey	HSE
Asst Prof Orla Hegarty	UCD
Mr Simon Jones	IEA and Aereco Ltd.
Ms Edel Murray	DHLGH
Prof Mike Prentice	UCC
Mr Brendan Redington	HSE Estates
Dr Kim Roberts	TCD
Dr Thomas Roux	HPSC

### Apologies

Dr Ina Kelly	HSE
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### MINUTES

#### 1. Minutes from last meeting, matters arising and conflicts of interest

Minutes from Meeting 7 were discussed and approved.

No additional conflicts of interest were declared among the Group.

#### 2. Communications and correspondence

The Chair provided the Group with feedback from the NPHET meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021 where the Group's second report was discussed. There were some questions on the importance of airborne transmission and ventilation, stand-alone HEPA filter devices and the impact of implementing some of the proposed measures, e.g. CO<sub>2</sub> monitors. There was also some uncertainty among NPHET members on how to manage the contents of the report. During the meeting it was indicated that the NPHET Chair and Chief Scientific Adviser would discuss this further.

Following Meeting 8 of this Expert Group, the NPHET Chair and Chief Scientific Adviser discussed the matter and it was decided that, going forward, the Group should work with the cross-government Senior Officials Group (SOG) on COVID-19, which has representation from relevant Government Departments and Agencies.

The Chair also informed the Group about recent communications on ventilation in schools with a Department of Education representative.

**3. Discussion on Work Plan**

The Group discussed the work plan in light of the feedback from NPHET and agreed to proceed with the work plan until further direction was received.

**4. Schools Supplement**

The Group discussed the Schools supplement in detail and agreed to finalise the document.

**5. Any Other Business**

None.

1 April 2021