

Minutes of the Cross-Departmental Oversight Committee Meeting 26th April 2022
(Atypical Workers Permission Scheme (Non-EEA Crew))

Location: Meeting hosted in the National Seafood Centre, Clonakilty, Co. Cork via video conferencing.

Chair: Roni Hawe (**Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine**)

Attendees:

Oversight Committee: **Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)** (Deirdre Kelleher, Mark Burns, Mary Molloy)

Department of Justice and Equality (DJE) (Paddy Duffy, Kevin Kavanagh)

Department of Transport (DT) (Brian Hogan)

Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation (DBEI) (Tara Coogan)

Apologies: None.

1. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the Oversight Committee meeting held on the 12th January 2022, 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

There were no matters arising other than mention of the work of the Review Group, which P. Duffy (DJE) proposed be discussed under AOB.

3. Mediation Agreement Update

All present confirmed that they continue to honour, in full, their commitments under the Mediation Agreement.

4. Submissions Received

There were no submissions received.

5. Current uptake of Scheme

a. DAFM advised that, as of Monday 25th April 2022, there were 315 live pre-approval applications.

b. DJE advised that, as of Monday 25th April 2022, there were 369 potentially valid Letters of Approval currently in circulation. K. Kavanagh (DJE) advised that of the 369 potentially valid Letters of Approval, 221 related to individuals who had renewed their applications in the last 12 months, while 148 related to individuals availing of the COVID-19 extension facility offered by the IDS, valid until 31st May 2022.

6. Next Meeting

It was proposed that the next meeting be held on 14th June 2022.

7. AOB

Review Group update – P Duffy (DJE) advised that the cross-departmental group had recently completed its work and its report remains under active consideration by the relevant Departments, with a view to bringing recommendations to Government in the near future. The cross-departmental review explored whether the Scheme should continue in its present format, be amended or whether a more suitable mechanism could be found. The review also incorporated consideration of all the submissions/consultations with relevant stakeholders. In the meantime, the Oversight Committee, chaired by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine continues to oversee the Scheme as currently structured.

That concluded the business of the meeting.