

Data and Research to Support Teacher Supply Planning

Minutes of meeting of the Working Group

2pm, Thursday October 6th 2022

Via WebEx

In attendance:

Tomás Ó Ruairc, Department of Education, (Chair)
Chris Kelly, Teacher Education Policy (Teacher Supply)
Deirdre Cullen, Statistics Section
Steven Lucas, Statistics Section
Sinéad Keenaghan, Payroll Division
Ray Murphy, Payroll Division
Siobhan Healy, Teaching Council,
Fiona Kindlon, ETBI
Jason Kelly, Inspectorate
Debbie Newman, Teacher Education Policy (ITE & Professional Development)
Jennifer Buttner, Primary Management Bodies
Sinead McDonnell, Forward Planning

Also in attendance:

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

Apologies:

Manuela Heinz, HEIs
Michael Redmond, Post-primary Management Bodies
Karen Eastwood Lovett, Teaching Council

1. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting of 1st September 2022 were agreed.

2. Ukraine crisis and teacher supply

The group were updated on the current position in relation to the Ukraine crisis and teacher supply.

The following points were noted:

- There is no evidence of the Ukrainian pupil enrolments being a significant demand driver for mainstream posts due to the pattern of enrolments across the system.

- However, enrolments are generating significant demand for EAL posts in schools (approximately 600 FTE posts).
- To date, approximately 11,800 Ukrainian students have enrolled in Irish schools, approx. 7,400 primary and 4,400 post primary.
- An increase in Ukrainian arrivals into the country over the last number of weeks was noted and this is expected to continue. A corresponding increase in demand for school places is also expected as a result.
- A survey of capacity in schools recently carried out by the Department indicates sufficient capacity throughout the system for new enrolments.

3. DTR Returns

Development of a Data Dashboard

The Group was updated on the development of a data dashboard. Work on this is continuing and a further update will be given at the next meeting

It was noted that the deadline for schools to make their 2022/23 DTR was 29th September 2022. The Department will follow up with outstanding schools over the coming weeks.

4. Data on sub demand and supply

The Group was updated on substitute teacher demand and supply.

The following points were noted:

- Data on the number of leave absences and the number of vacancies filled in September has been sought for both primary and post-primary schools.
- This data cannot be captured for the supply panels at primary level and the supervision and substitution scheme at post-primary level. It is expected that the upcoming re-development of OLCS will allow for the capture of this data.
- In this regard, IT are currently outsourcing the re-development of OLCS and an RFT is being finalised.

5. Use of the Teaching Council register to hold additional data to support teacher supply planning

Update on new registration database

The group were updated on NOVUS, the Teaching Councils new registration database. There are currently 115,355 teachers on the register, up 4,223 from 2021 (111,132)

NQT registrations 2022

The NQT registration fast track process is now closed. This year data on 3,745 graduates was transferred to the Teaching Council by the HEIs. 3,572 graduates have applied to be

registered with the Council to date with 3,536 applications processed and 36 applications outstanding.

Route 5 (Student Teacher) registrations

A total of 1,300 registration applications have been received. 1,229 student teachers are now registered under Route 5, with approx. 71 applications still in process. Cycle 2 of Route 5 registrations is due to commence in the coming weeks.

Registration of Ukrainian teachers

- To date there have been 134 applications for registration from Ukrainian teachers.
- 80 of these have had qualification approved, of which 53 have been registered. 27 are awaiting police clearance/Garda vetting.
- Of the 53 teachers registered, 5 are primary and 48 are post primary.

6. Post-primary subject teacher projection model

Post-primary subject teacher report

The Group was updated on the development of the draft post-primary subject teacher projection report and the underpinning model.

The following points were noted:

- The draft report will feature a section on Career Guidance.
- The draft report will acknowledge future educational reforms and these will be dealt with in future iterations of the report.
- The draft report will reference SEN and the regional dimension but these will not be included in the supply and demand model.

The following points were agreed:

- The draft report will have a second section to examine how resources are being deployed across the education system i.e. those who not teaching their subject and the teachers who are teaching out of field.
- The Data Sharing Agreement between the Teaching Council and the Department will need to be updated to include the date of first registration.

Meeting of Data Subgroup (update)

The group was updated on a meeting of the Data Sub Group which took place on September 28th and appreciation was extended to the management bodies for their input at this meeting.

A paper outlining the points discussed at the sub group meeting was circulated to the group and the following points were agreed:

- The draft report will include data on teachers who are not teaching their registered subject.
- Unmet demand will be included in the draft report along with an explanatory note.
- 50% of actual transition year enrolment figures will be used to take account of the “modular” structure of TY delivery. This assumption will be stated in the draft report.
- It was agreed not to distinguish between curricular and non-curricular religious education in terms of enrolment figures and to include all P.E. enrolments.
- It will not be possible to address future policy developments in the draft report. It was agreed that an explanatory note will be included to outline that the report is a work in progress and further consideration will be given to new subjects as they come on-stream.
- 29 curricular subjects will be included in the draft report and a note will be included to outline the rationale for excluding subjects with low enrolments.
- The Teaching Council will confirm the numbers of new registrants to inform a decision whether to use NQTs only or include new registrant data as well in the draft report.

Arrangements for publication of draft report for consultation / National Consultative Forum

It is intended that the draft report will be finalised in Q4 2022 and published as a document for consultation at the National Consultative Forum on Teacher Supply in November 2022.

Workshop for education partners

Following publication of the draft report in Q4 2022, a workshop will be held with education partners to inform the next steps.

Survey of unmet demand 2022/23

The Group considered the potential for future surveys of unmet demand.

It was agreed that the survey of unmet demand will proceed in 2022/23 after the publication of the post-primary subject teacher report. It was agreed to review the format and timing of the survey.

7. Date of next meeting

23rd November 2022

**Teacher Supply Secretariat
November 2022**