

Data and Research to Support Teacher Supply Planning

Minutes of meeting of the Working Group

9.30am, Friday 3 March 2023

Via WebEx

In attendance:

Tomás Ó Ruairc, Department of Education (Chair)
Séamus Keating, Teacher Education Policy (Teacher Supply)
Deirdre Cullen, Statistics Section
Conor McCourt, Teacher Education Policy (Teacher Supply)
Olwyn Byrne, Statistics Section
Siobhan Healy, Teaching Council
Karen Eastwood Lovett, Teaching Council
Kieran Rogers, Special Education
Jason Kelly, Inspectorate
Manuela Heinz, HEIs

Also in attendance:

John Egan, Teacher Education Policy (Teacher Supply)
Damien O'Neill, Teacher Education Policy (Teacher Supply)

Apologies:

Murty Hanly, Forward Planning
Fiona Kindlon, ETBI
Sinéad Keenaghan, Payroll Division
Jennifer Buttner, Primary Management Bodies
Michael Redmond, Post-Primary Management Bodies
Debbie Newman, Teacher Education Policy (ITE & Professional Development)

1. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting of 18th January 2023 were agreed.

2. Post-primary subject teacher projection model

Post-primary subject teacher projection model update

It was noted that it is intended to publish the post-primary subject teacher projection model shortly.

Survey of unmet demand 2022/23

The Group was informed that the intention is to carry out this survey in November of this year.

3. Sectoral workshops

The Group welcomed the announcement that there will be a Stakeholder engagement Workshop re supply and demand/deployment of substitute teachers on Thursday, 23 March in Athlone. Both Primary and Post Primary sectors will be discussed and invites will issue to relevant Stakeholders shortly.

4. Teacher demand and supply in IME schools

It was agreed that a potential Workshop to discuss the issues that affect the Irish Medium Education sector would be welcome. Further discussion on this will follow.

5. Short to medium term data planning

Development of a teacher supply Data Dashboard

Discussed in point 6 below.

SET demand and supply

It was noted that work is ongoing in this area.

6. ETB teacher data: update

It was noted that discussions between the ETB and Department are ongoing regarding the use of ETB teacher data by the Department for the purpose of the Data Dashboard. It was noted that it was expected that the Data Dashboard is expected to be ready in the coming months. It is hoped that the data collected will help inform decisions on teacher shortages going forward. It was agreed that once that Dashboard is finalised and agreed it should be updated for every school term.

7. Data on substitute teacher demand and supply

Work was ongoing on collation of data to assist this process.

8. DTR Returns

It was noted that DTR returns from schools are as close to a full return as is needed. It is hoped that this data can be brought together with other sources of data to help inform decisions on teacher supply.

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

The Group was informed that over 118,000 teachers have now registered with the Teaching Council.

NQT registrations

- 3,603 NQTs registered in 2022

Route 5 (Student Teacher) registrations

- 2,742 students teachers registered under Route 5 to date
 - 174 applications in progress

10. Ukraine crisis and teacher supply (update)

It was noted that 85% of schools have less than 10 % and Ukrainian pupil enrolments are not a significant demand driver for mainstream teaching posts currently.

The following was noted:

- To date, approximately 14,500 Ukrainian students have enrolled in Irish schools.

11. AOB

The Group thanked Deirdre Cullen for her many years of service in the Department and her significant contribution to the Data Working Group ahead of her retirement next month.

12. Date of next meeting

Thursday 27 April @ 11.30am was agreed.

Teacher Supply Secretariat
April 2023