

**Data and Research to Support Teacher Supply Planning**  
**Minutes of meeting of the Working Group**  
**11.30am, Thursday 30th November 2023**  
**Via Teams**

*In attendance:*

Paul Alexander, Statistics Section  
Olwyn Byrne, Statistics Section  
Séamus Keating, Teacher Education Policy (Teacher Supply) Chair  
Karen Eastwood Lovett, Teaching Council  
Siobhan Healy, Teaching Council  
Fiona Kindlon, ETBI  
Adrian Mannion, Teacher Education (ITE)  
Michael Redmond, Post-Primary Management Bodies  
Micheál Lenihan, ESBS  
Laura Walsh, Inspectorate  
Jennifer Buttner, Primary Management Bodies  
Fergus Quinn, Special Education  
Manuela Heinz, University of Galway

*Also in attendance:*

Leonie Kiernan, Teacher Education Policy (Teacher Supply)  
Deirdre Dalton, Teacher Education Policy (Teacher Supply)  
Tom Slevin, Teacher Education Policy (Teacher Supply)

*Apologies:*

Tomás Ó Ruairc, Department of Education  
Murty Hanly, Forward Planning  
Sinéad Middleton, Teacher Education (ITE)  
Sinéad Keenaghan, Payroll Division  
Michael Donoghue, Payroll Division

## **1. Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> October were agreed with no matters arising.

## **2. Planned research on the Teaching Council register**

The Group was updated on the "signs of life" analysis of the Teaching Council register being undertaken by the CSO, which will involve the matching of data from the Council's register with data from Revenue, Department of Social Welfare and the census.

### **3. Short to medium term data planning updates**

#### *Teacher supply data project (data dashboards)*

The following points were noted:

- There are two sources of data for the dashboards, Department Teacher Payroll and ESBS Teacher Payroll
- Data Sharing Agreements sent to individual ETBs have all been signed and returned to the Department. Donegal ETB have yet to transfer data.
- Some initial results will be presented at the engagement forum on teacher workforce planning on 8<sup>th</sup> December
- Data has been collected from payroll in June, September and November to give a clear picture.

#### *Request to survey of any teachers working abroad*

It was noted that a request had come from sectoral groups which meet on teacher supply issues for this group to conduct a survey of teachers working abroad.

The group discussed the feasibility of this request and the following points were noted:

- There would be some issues identifying and targeting this specific cohort of teachers
- Statistics Unit may be able to create a time series based on the data from the signs of life data currently being collected.
- This could identify how many of those “missing teachers” actually return, how long they are likely to stay away and this may provide a useful insight.
- This cannot be done retrospectively but can certainly be looked at going forward.

### **4. Post primary unmet demand**

The following points were noted:

- The survey has been rebuilt on an online platform and is ready to issue to post primary schools shortly
- The survey will be hosted on EU survey and will directly be sent to schools and a message will be issued on ESINET.
- It was requested that management bodies promote this within their organisations.
- It is proposed to build a secure platform to carry out this survey on a monthly basis.

### **5. Data on substitute teacher demand and supply**

#### *Online survey of substitute teachers*

The following points were noted:

- An online survey to help the Department understand patterns of working of substitute teachers is underway.
- The Department are to also speak with management bodies in relation to targeting substitute teachers to participate in this survey.
- The survey will remain open until the end of December

## **6. Data from the Teaching Council register to support teacher supply planning**

### *NQT registrations*

The following points were noted:

- Currently 121,405 teachers in total are registered with the Teaching Council,
- Approximately 3,790 NQTs have registered in 2023 to date.
- 109 NQTs have not engaged with the registration process.

### *Route 5 (student teacher) registrations*

- Total registered – 2,921
- Registrations for next eligible cohort opened in October:
- 2,161 student teachers received invitations for registration
- 1,605 applications received, of which 1,064 registrations are completed and a further 541 are in progress

### *Ukrainian teachers*

- There are currently 142 teachers from the Ukraine registered, majority are post primary teachers.
- There are approx. 80 registrations still in progress

## **7. Ukraine crisis and teacher supply**

The following points were noted:

- There are approximately 18,000 Ukrainian students in the system. 11,065 in primary and 6,763 in post primary.
- Last week 68 new students enrolled in primary schools and 38 in post primary schools
- Approx. 1,500 EAL's and 200 SET's have been deployed to support Ukrainian students in schools.

## **8. Date of next meeting**

TBC

**December 2023**