

DRAFT

Meeting of the Teacher Supply Implementation Group

Venue: Marlborough St (video link to DES Athlone)

11th December 2018 @ 12 noon

Minutes

In attendance:

Seán Ó Foghlú, Secretary General (Chair)
Ned Costello, Assistant Secretary General
Deirdre McDonnell, Assistant Secretary General
Tara Carton, PO, External Staff Relations
Chris Kelly, PO, Teacher Supply (video link)
John McDermott, APO, Higher Education (for Philip Crosby, PO)
Alfie Barrett PO, Teacher Terms & Conditions (video link)
Louise Callinan, HEA

Also in attendance:

Conor McCourt, APO, Teacher Supply Secretariat (video link)

Apologies:

Harold Hislop, Chief Inspector
William Beausang, Assistant Secretary General
Brendan Doody, Assistant Chief Inspector
Padraig Maloney, PO, Teacher Payroll
Aisling Curley, PO, Pensions
Paraic Joyce, PO, School Governance
Philip Crosby, PO, Higher Education
Tomás Ó Ruairc, Director, Teaching Council

1. Minutes

- Minutes of the meeting of 23rd October 2018 were agreed.

2. Welcome

- The Chairperson welcomed Louise Callinan (HEA) to the Implementation Group

3. Update on recent developments

(a) Data to support teacher supply planning

- The Group was updated on the latest position on data to support teacher supply planning.

(b) Communications and Promotion of the Profession

- The Group was updated on recent developments regarding the promotion campaign. It was noted that a briefing meeting for stakeholders is planned in advance of the commencement of the campaign.

Development of a teacher employment portal

- It was noted that a meeting had been held with the IPPN and NAPD to explore the range of existing provision.

Regional focus groups

- It was noted that the feedback from the focus groups held to date is in general positive and constructive.

Terms of Reference of the Steering Group

- It was agreed to draft an amendment to the Terms of Reference of the Steering Group to include ongoing consultations with the teacher unions.

(c) Higher Education

Review of school placement guidelines

- It was noted that the School Placement Working Group held its first meeting on 22 November 2018.

Teaching Council Review of ITE programmes (interim report)

- It was noted that the Teaching Council's interim report has been received and is under consideration.

Proposals from the HEIs for additional ITE programmes/ additional ITE student numbers

- It was noted that the HEA is clarifying a number of programme proposals with the HEIs
- It was agreed that:

- where clarification is not required in respect of a programme proposal, the HEA should immediately engage with the relevant HEI to ensure that the programmes proceeds in 2019 and is included in the CAO handbook, and
- the HEA will provide an update on progress in this area in the week beginning 17 December 2018.

Student supports

- It was noted that:
 - additional funding of €1m will be provided via the Student Assistance Fund in 2018/19 for PME students who are experiencing financial difficulty, and
 - other measures will be considered in the longer term

Transition supports for out of state teachers (new Teaching Council proposal)

- The Teaching Council proposal regarding the provision of a professional orientation supports for schools who are recruiting a teacher who qualified outside the State was noted.

It was agreed that:

- such supports should be in place for the 2019/20 school year and
- that the Teaching Council should be asked to set out a plan to ensure implementation for the commencement of 2019/20 school year.

(d) Policies and arrangements for schools and teachers that impact on teacher supply

Teachers on career break

- It was noted that the suspension for 2018/19 of restrictions on employment for teachers on career break had been communicated to the system.

Job sharing teachers

- The latest developments regarding the removal of restrictions on job sharing teachers undertaking substitute work were noted

Substitute teacher supply panels for primary schools.

- It was noted that the Department's intends to further consult with the INTO regarding the potential use of teacher supply panels

Sharing of teachers of priority subjects between post-primary schools

- It was noted that a meeting with the post primary teacher unions will be scheduled to consider sharing of teachers of between post-primary schools.

Streamlining of registration processes for out of State applicants

- The Teaching Council's report "Streamlining of Qualifications Assessment Process" was noted.

The following points were agreed:

- that the Teaching Council would be asked to provide timelines for the implementation of the actions in the report.
- that developments in this area should be included on the communications campaign, including the inclusion of a link in the new landing page for teachers currently teaching outside the State.

General

- It was noted that a meeting of the Policies and Procedures Working Group is planned to take place shortly.

4. Teacher Supply Action Plan: progressing actions re flexible access to ITE/ upskilling programmes

- It was agreed that Teacher Education Policy (ITE and Professional Development) should be included on the Implementation Group to support the implementation of actions involving the upskilling of teachers.

5. AOB

- It was noted that agreed minutes of the various teacher supply group meetings are posted on the Department's website.

6. Date of next meeting

- TBC