Minutes of the Cross-Departmental Oversight Committee Meeting
(Atypical Workers Permission Scheme (Non-EEA Crew))
3rd June 2020

Location: Meeting hosted in the National Seafood Centre, Clonakilty, Co. Cork via video conferencing.
Chair: Kevin Moriarty **(Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine)**

Attendees: **Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine** (**DAFM**) (Dr. Deirdre Kelleher, Brian Batt)
Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation (**DBEI**) (Tara Coogan)
Department of Justice and Equality (**DJE**) (Kevin Kavanagh)
Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection (**DEASP**) (Mark Doheny)

Apologies: **Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport** (**DTTS**) (Michael Kennedy)

1. **Minutes of previous meeting**
   a. The minutes of the Oversight Committee meeting held on the 26th of February 2020, 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**
   a. The Chair outlined that it had been intended to invite all stakeholders to attend at this meeting and address the Committee in person however, given the current pandemic restrictions, this was not possible. The Chair stated that this invitation will be extended at a future date, when public health advice allows for same.

3. **Mediation Agreement Update**
   a. DBEI updated the Committee in relation to Commitment 13 of the Agreement, which recommends that the WRC adjudicators have jurisdiction over violations of Regulation 6 of SI 709 of 2003, This commitment requires primary legislation, which will be subject to the legislative process and timeline of the Oireachtas and is beyond the control of the Oversight Committee.

4. **Review of any submissions received**
   a. No new submission was received prior to the meeting.

5. **Current uptake of Scheme**
   a. DJE advised that, as of Friday the 29th of May 2020, there were 250 potentially valid Letters of Approval currently in circulation.
   b. DAFM advised that, as of Tuesday the 2nd of June 2020, there were 244 live pre - approval applications.
   c. It was noted that DAFM's number of pre-approvals represents fishers who submitted original applications or renewals within the past 12 months, whereas the figure quoted by DJE covers an additional 90 day period, this being the period of validity of the Letter of Approval.

6. **Next Meeting**
   a. A date of the 2nd of September 2020 was agreed for the next meeting of the Oversight Committee. The venue of this meeting will be decided closer to the date, in accordance with the prevailing public health advice.

7. **AOB**
   a. DJE informed the Committee that they had examined the possibility of extending the validity period of the Letter of Approval and now wished to report further to the Committee on this matter. DJE stated it was not necessary at this time to implement any general extension as they were not experiencing high levels of difficulty with the current timeline. Any expired Letters of Approval were being dealt with by DJE on a case by case basis.
   b. The Chair raised the issue of the frequency of which the Oversight Committee currently meets. The Chair wished for further discussion to take place on this matter, with the views of stakeholders being sought.
   c. That concluded the business of the meeting.