

National Forum on Guidance - October 2016: Information for Regional Skills Fora

The National Forum on Guidance is co-ordinated and hosted by the National Centre for Guidance in Education (NCGE) on behalf of the Department of Education and Skills.

The National Forum on Guidance provides a communication and co-operation facility for those involved in provision of guidance and the development and support of guidance practitioners and services. Organisations providing guidance in both the education and the public employment sector are represented. Discussions are informed by National Priorities and developments in guidance in line with EU Commission activities and Education and Training 2020 (ET 2020).

At recent discussions of the National Forum on Guidance, those in attendance agreed that it would be beneficial to inform the Regional Skills Forum (RSF) Managers of the representatives in guidance across sectors in Ireland. RSF Managers might contact the relevant organisations to invite representation from guidance at discussions/sector specific meetings regionally. As the provision of guidance may differ across the education and labour market sectors, the following organisations represent guidance practitioners in these different sectors.

More information on the National Forum on Guidance is available from NCGE or to download at:
<http://www.ncge.ie/about-us/national-forum-on-guidance-2011-15>

The following national contact points will provide information for regional/local contact details:

1. Adult Educational Guidance Association of Ireland (AEGAI). AEGAI represents the guidance practitioners in the 39 Adult Guidance services and FET guidance services within the ETBs nationally. Each ETB has a guidance service working with those in FET, adult basic and community education. These services work closely with the local DSP/Intreo offices also.

Contact Details: <http://www.aegai.ie>. E: guidance@aegai.ie

2. Association of Higher Education Careers Services (AHECS). AHECS represents the careers services in the Universities and Institutes of Technology and works to bring employers and careers services together to discuss issues of mutual interest and concern.

Contact Details: <http://www.ahecs.ie/> & <http://www.ahecs.ie/employers/career-services/>

3. Institute of Guidance Counsellors (IGC). The IGC is the professional body representing over 1330 practitioners across all sectors, schools, colleges, FET, private practice and other settings. The majority of members of the IGC are those working in post-primary schools and thus IGC represents this particular group.

Contact Details: <http://www.igc.ie/> E: president@igc.ie or office@igc.ie

4. Department of Social Protection (DSP) Intreo Offices. Intreo offices provide practical, tailored employment services and supports for jobseekers and employers. Local office information is available from DSP.

Contact Details: <http://www.welfare.ie/en/Pages/Intreo-Centres-and-Local-and-Branch-Offices.aspx>