



## NCGE Management of Guidance Committee (MGC) 2017-2020

### Record of the 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019

#### 1. Minutes from the last meeting (23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019) and Matters Arising

There were minor amendments to the Minutes, proposed by JM and seconded by KF.

##### Matters Arising

Updates: -

- Léargas/NCGE 2019 Performance Delivery Agreement (PDA) with DES signed. Delay due to need for clarification of NCGE role in FET Guidance.
- DES Indecon internal Task Force due to meet with stakeholders re detailed proposals. Next scheduled meeting Feb 2020. DES notified NCGE that currently considering detailed proposals for the establishment of the support organisation.
- National Forum on Guidance (11 November) - Minister Mary Mitchell O'Connor recommended NCGE to be involved in all future national meetings which relate to guidance.

##### 1.1. Meeting Record of 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting

- There were no changes to the Meeting Record of the 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting, which is to be uploaded onto the NCGE website.

##### 1.2. NCGE Points of Information

- NCGE Director spoke through NCGE Points of Information handout. It was proposed that the NCGE Points of Information are not for discussion but just for information.

##### 1.3. Dates of next meetings

- Dates for the next two NCGE MGC Meetings are: 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020 (in calendar) and 29<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

#### 2. Governance & Risk

- **GDPR Agreements with ETBs:** DFET Forum Meeting taking place on 15<sup>th</sup> January. NCGE expects agreement for sign-off. Update at next MGC Meeting.
- **BDO Internal Audit Update:**
  - Identified ICT risk in NCGE – addressed now as migration to Microsoft 365 in process
  - Business Continuity Plan to be tested in Léargas next week

It was proposed that all risks, however minor, specific to NCGE to be brought to the MGC Meeting for naming and minuting.

#### 3. NCGE Strategic Plan (2019-2020)

- NCGE Director to update NCGE Strategic Plan with minor amendments (to include Definition of Guidance and DES requirements regarding Government of Ireland Sustainable Development Goals).
- Final version for sign-off to be uploaded to OMS and brought to attention of Léargas Board.

## **4. AOB**

### **4.1. DEIS School Project Update**

- DEASP providing guidance in schools is a concern to NCGE and to some sections in DES.
- DEASP updates on the pilot project indicate that the DEASP guidance is not set up to replace the guidance counsellor nor provide guidance but just DEASP expertise. The pilot project was arranged with the guidance counsellor and principal in the school involved – delivering to TY in DEIS schools and the project continued over several weeks with CV preparation and job interview skills. DEASP report positive outcomes including students accessing placement following interview preparation, etc..
- NCGE concerned with DEASP providing guidance in schools as delivering career workshops and help with CVs is a requirement of school guidance counsellors. Another concern is that this guidance is happening in an ad hoc manner.
- NCGE has expressed concern to DES about DEASP “provision of careers guidance in schools”. Nevertheless, under the context of Whole School Guidance, engagement with DEASP case officers could be appropriate and valid when case officers could be invited into the school by the guidance counsellor to provide additional information on all relevant services. It is important that students are aware of all post-school options in FET, in apprenticeships and in work, and not just higher education options. It is also important to consider that DEIS contains students who are at risk of educational disadvantage and not of intellectual disadvantage.
- NCGE discussed with DES the suggestion of a working group to include DES, DEASP, NCGE and other relevant agencies. DES agreed that NCGE is to convene this working group. DES authorised NCGE to engage with CAP and Social Inclusion in DES to look at this process.
- NCGE to convene an initial meeting of NCGE, DES and DEASP, and subsequently to invite a wider working group of relevant agencies and stakeholders including the IGC.
- The NCGE MGC agreed and supports this process of collaboration. The NCGE Director agreed to inform CAP of the MGC concerns discussed at today’s meeting.

### **4.2. MGC Meeting Restructure**

The Chair recommended a meeting and agenda restructure split into two parts where Part A involves information and updates and Part B involves discussion and decisions.

The Chair acknowledged and thanked the MGC members for their commitment to the role and wished them a very Happy Christmas.

The meeting ended at 12:30.