

# Developing the Next Further Education and Training Strategy



**NCGE National Forum on Guidance**

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**2<sup>nd</sup> April 2019**

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It has been an incredible journey since the further education and training system was established in 2013...

**2013**

ETBs and SOLAS created to bring further education and training systems together for 1<sup>st</sup> time

**2014 onwards**

Planning and funding approach and learner database developed

**2016**

Action Plan on Apprenticeships & Traineeships launched

**2017**

SOLAS Corporate Plan with FET system targets

**2018**

Strategic Performance Agreements established between SOLAS and the ETBs

**2014**

First integrated further education and training strategy published

**2014-2015**

Transition of training centre ownership from SOLAS to ETBs

**2016**

First Directors of FET appointed in ETBs

**2018**

Progress Review prioritises clearer learner pathways

Organisation



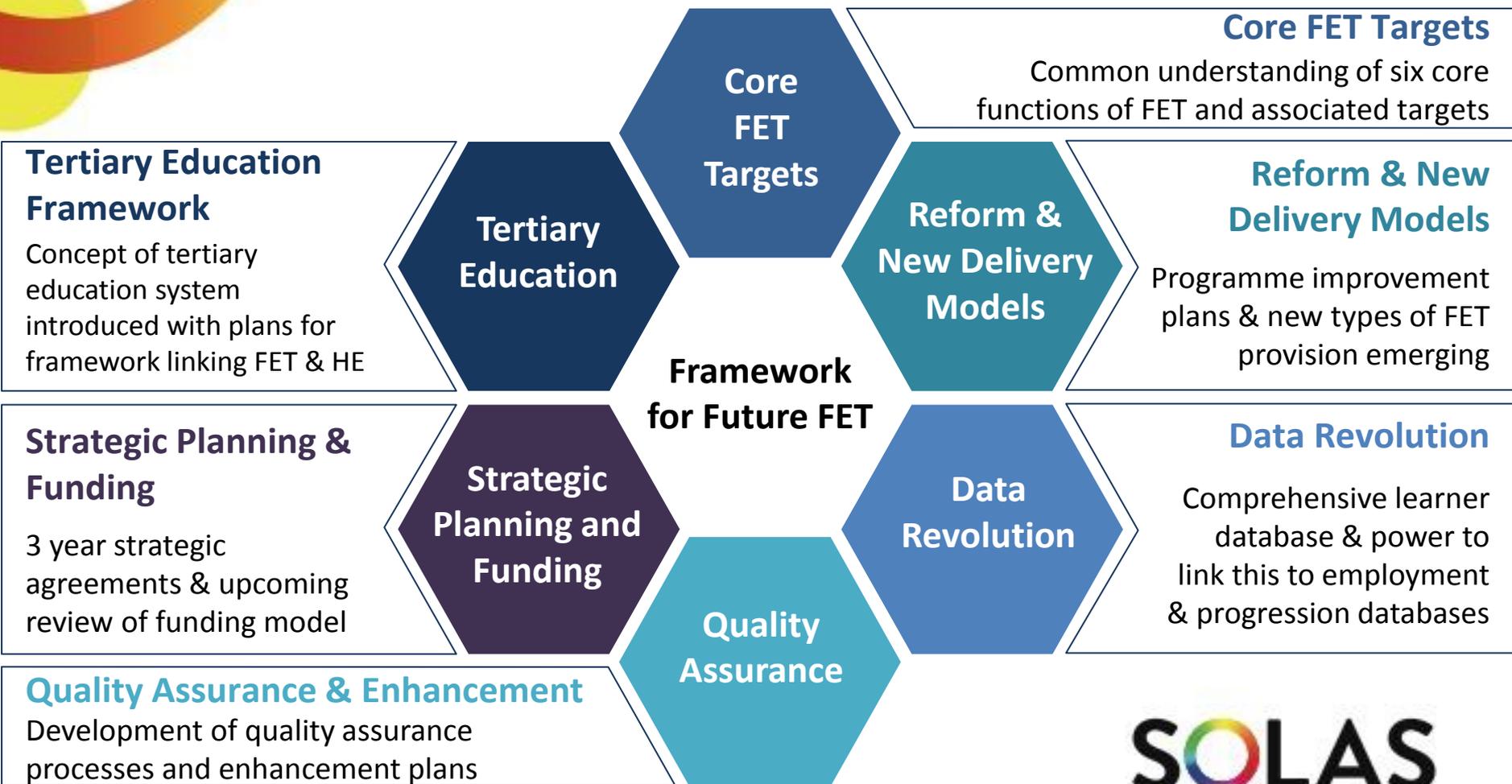
Strategy



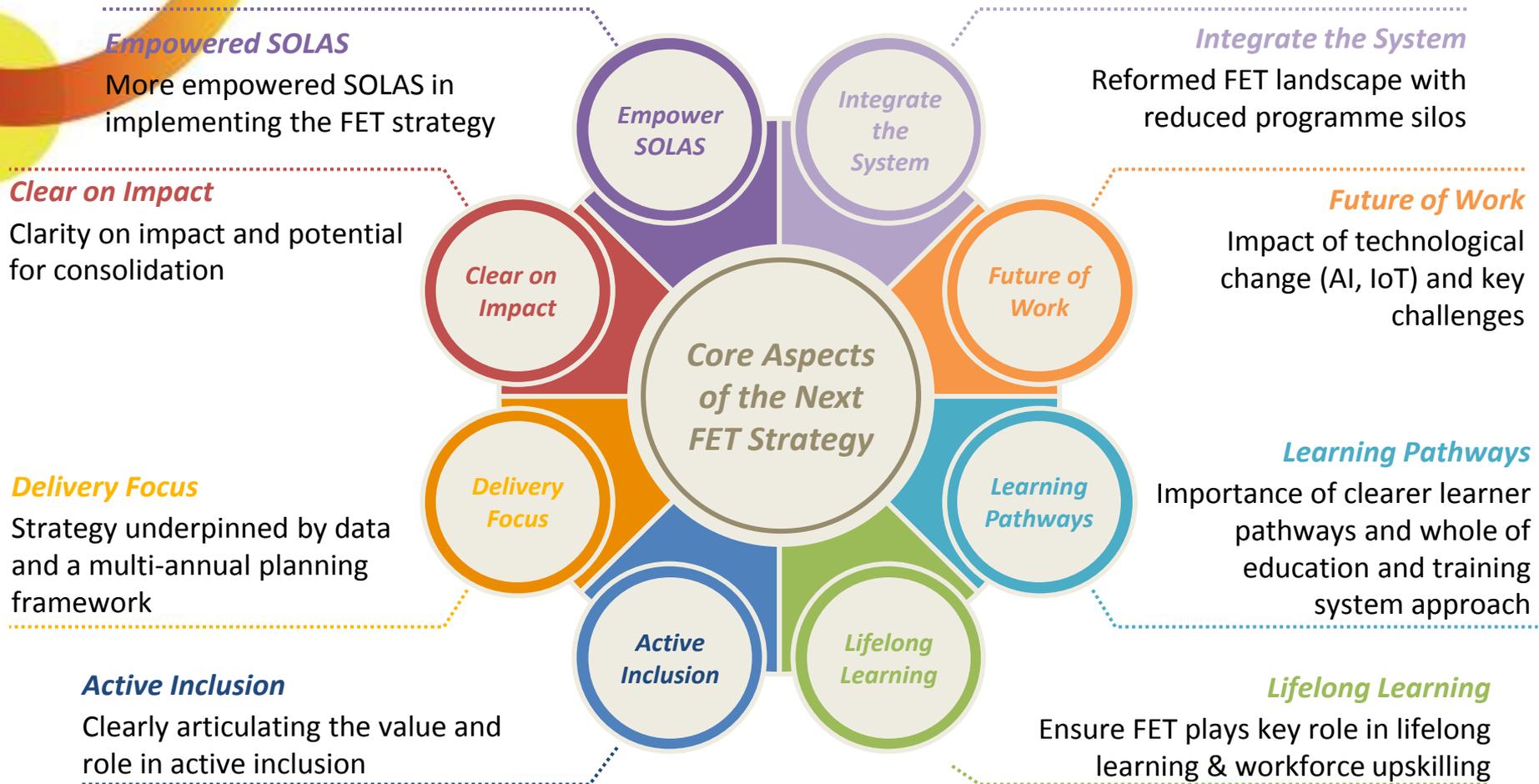
Culture

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We now have a framework in place for a strategic and integrated further education and training system...



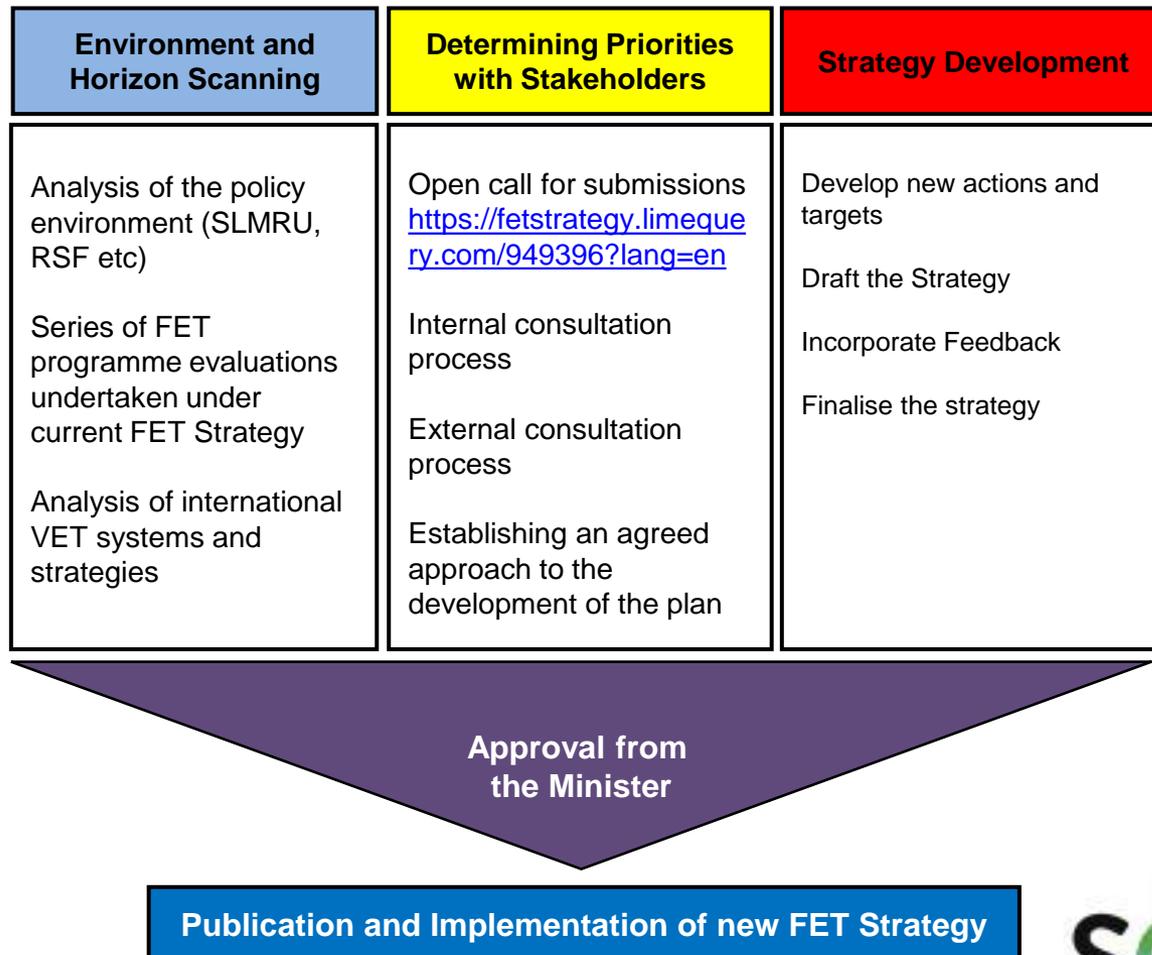
# But the challenges to be faced in formulating the next further education and training strategy are significant...



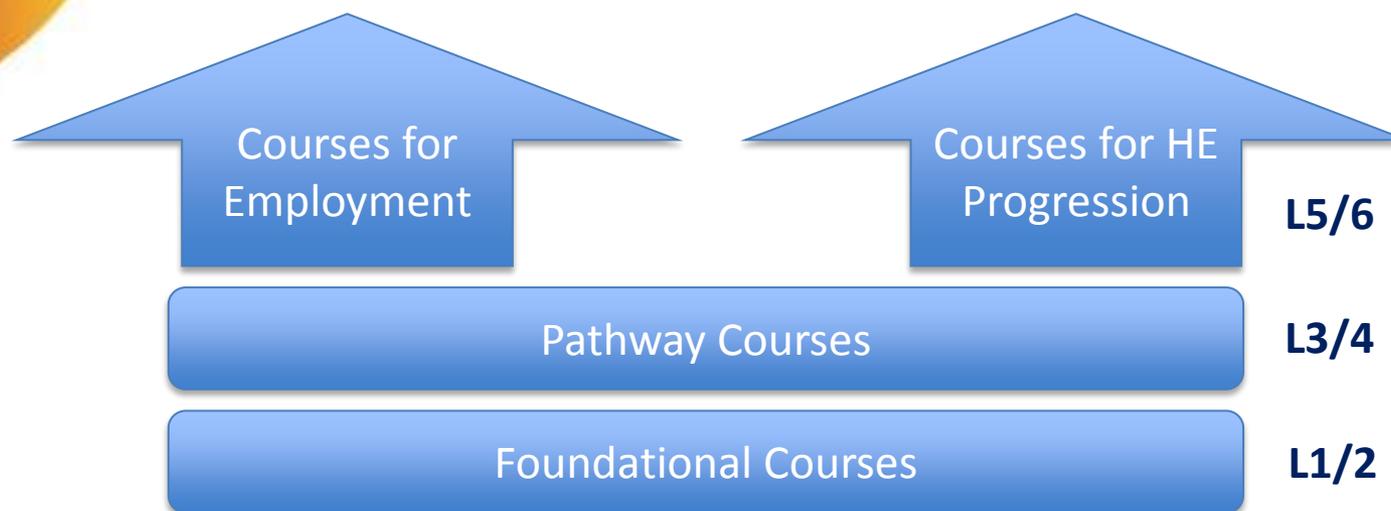
A comprehensive consultation and development process is underway to help shape FET Strategy 2020-2024...



The process involves three distinct phases and the Forum provides a perfect opportunity to determine priorities around guidance...

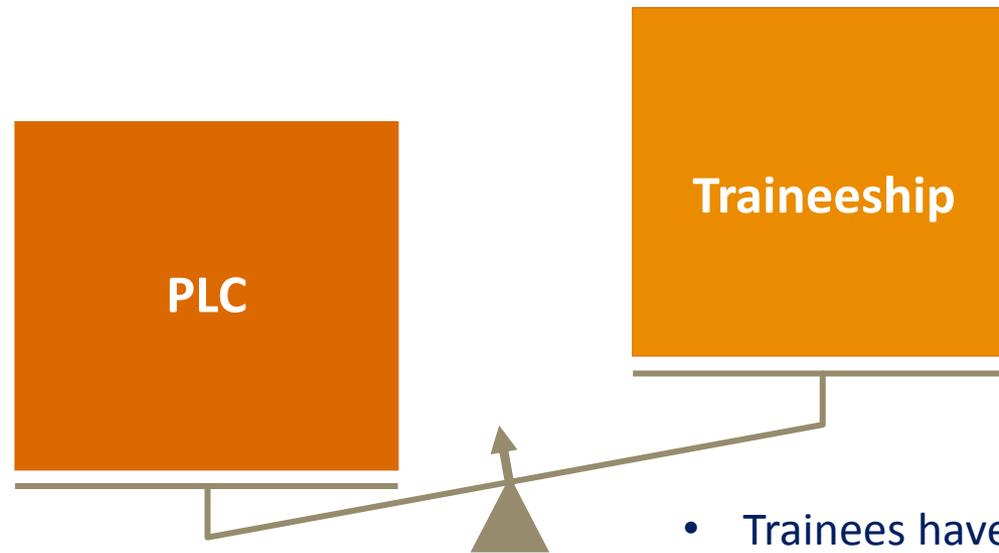


A simplified programme structure where the learner pathway is much more transparent should be possible...



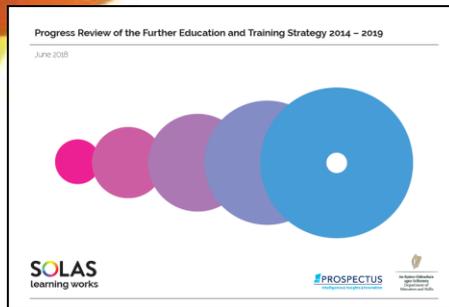
- More consistent FTE driven funding approach for Level 5/6 provision
- Uniform approach to L5/L6 programmes in each ETB area (e.g. contact hour divergences addressed, all year round provision)
- Courses for employment and HE progression both offered within integrated FET colleges

A common system of student/learner support and access would support FET integration and help change perspectives...

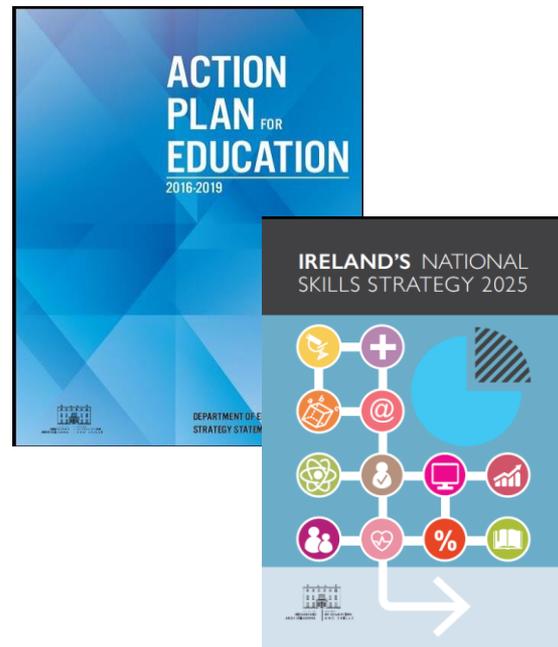


- Access to SUSI support
- Access to Fund for Students with Disabilities
- Second level guidance services
- Trainees have access to training allowances (once they sign on!)
- Major barrier to effective integrated FET provision
- Adult guidance services

There must be a clear understanding of the role of further education and training within the wider tertiary system...



*Progress Review of first FET strategy recommended holistic vision for future development of education and training*



*DES has integrated further and higher education functions committed to an integrated tertiary education framework in 2019*

Skills development

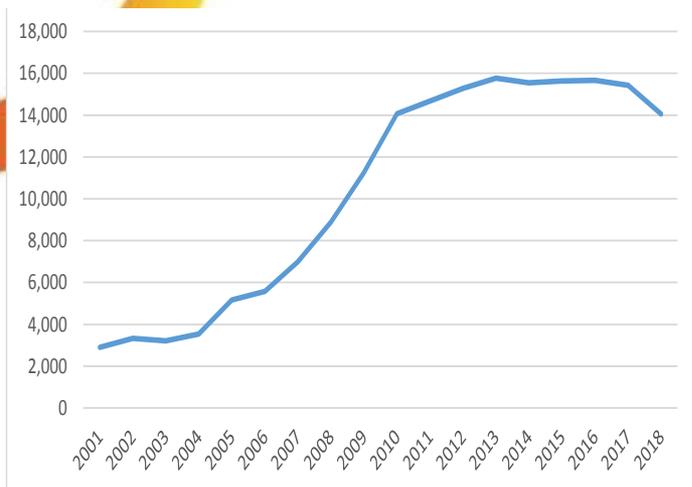
Learner pathways

Demographic planning

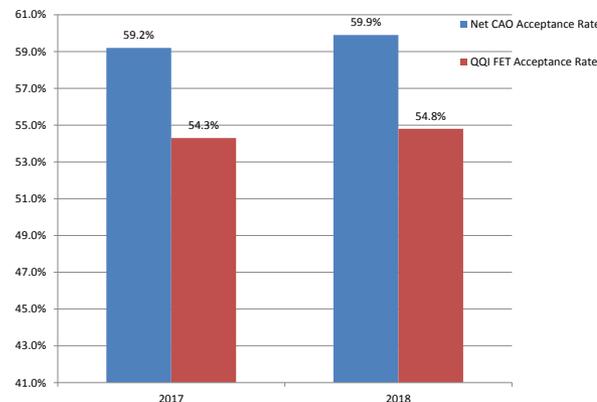
*Building on existing synergies there are clear areas where the FET role & contribution should be clear*

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We are in the midst of a data revolution which will give us accurate information on learner pathways and outcomes...



Strong CAO FET Demand



Lower FET Take-Up



Significant FET Progression to HE & Jobs

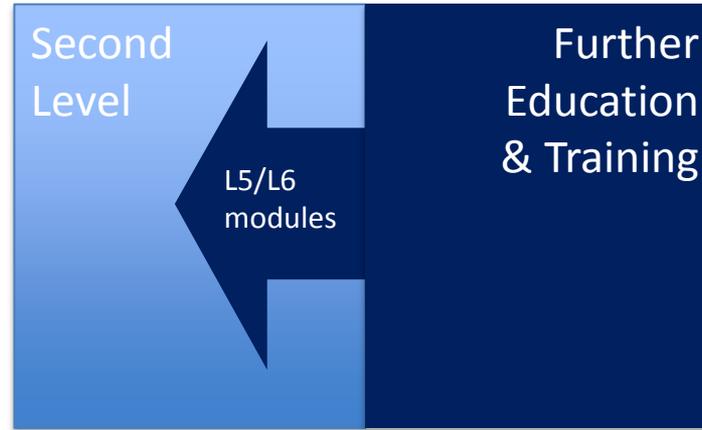
Year of PLC Graduation	HE Year 1	HE Year 2	HE Year 3
Class of 2017	100%	-	-
Class of 2016	100%	80.0%	-
Class of 2015	100%	81.6%	65.1%
Class of 2014	100%	84.6%	70.7%
Multi-annual Average Retention Rate	100%	83.1%	68.8%
IoTs Average Retention Rate 2013 & 2014 PLC Grads	100%	80.9%	64.3%
Universities Average Retention Rate 2013 & 2014 PLC Grads	100%	89.5%	78.5%

Relatively strong HE Retention for FET grads

\* Please note that the analysis set out on this slide is still being finalised and that any stats within it should be taken as indicative and not for re-quoting

# Perhaps an enhanced role in promoting the value of vocational education in second-level education is worth considering...

*Changing culture and demand for vocational options is only part of battle – many schools lack capability to offer such choices...*



*...but FET already has this expertise if a flexible delivery model can be found*

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Feedback

# An integrated FET guidance strategy and service is long overdue and was set out in the first FET strategy...

*Devise and implement an integrated FET Guidance Strategy for the FET sector. A FET Guidance Service ought to build on current AEGI integrated guidance counselling aims; to offer a guidance service to adults and young people over the age of 16 who have left post primary school early, which includes impartial adult education information, one-to-one guidance and group guidance which will help people to make informed educational career and life choices.*

*Further Education and Training Strategy 2014-2019*



A lot of work between NCGE and ETBs to put in place foundation for effective FET strategy



Process put on hold pending completion of wider Indecon review of career guidance



Progress review of FET strategy by Prospectus reaffirms need for integrated strategy and recommends clearer learner pathways into, within and from FET



Need to work towards an effective integrated guidance strategy as soon as possible which ETBs, NCGE and SOLAS can work collaboratively

As per career guidance review full integration of a learner guidance and support service across FET is an immediate priority...

