



Indecon Review of Career Guidance

Tools and Information



NCGE FORUM 1 MAY 2019

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Purpose and Terms of Reference

- ▶ Purpose: Ensure provision of high quality, relevant career guidance information to students and adults
- ▶ Provided for in National Skills Strategy 2025 and the Ed Action Plan
- ▶ Looked at existing career guidance tools and information
- ▶ The quality of information available, sources of this information and how the system is organised to support it
- ▶ When are opinions formed and what influences career choices
- ▶ How can enterprise engagement be enhanced -> career pathways
- ▶ Make recommendations

Methodology

- ▶ Expert steering group – chaired by Prof Tom Collins, comprising officials, key agencies, an enterprise rep, a parent, learner, principal and OECD rep
- ▶ Stakeholder consultation - extensive engagement
- ▶ Empirical survey evidence with learners (1,818) and guidance counsellors (440)
- ▶ 119 written submissions
- ▶ Forum in Farmleigh
- ▶ Analysis of Growing up In Ireland databases encompassing survey research with 6,216 young people between 17-18

Findings

Reforms to Governance and Delivery arrangements

- ▶ Appoint a National Policy Group to develop a coherent, long term strategy for lifelong career guidance
- ▶ Ongoing emphasis on evidence-based policy, incl biennial stakeholder forum
- ▶ Establish a support organisation to oversee technology facilitated guidance services funded in part from the NTF
- ▶ Set up Implementation Task Force to drive the proposed reforms
- ▶ Integrate a consistent Learner Guidance and Support Service across FET

Findings 2

Improvement to Career Guidance Tools and Information

- ▶ Provide multi-channel, blended career guidance supports, including online tools with phone and internet access to experienced G practitioners
- ▶ Strengthen and promote a user-friendly centralised careers portal
- ▶ Allocate specialised guidance practitioners to groups of schools on a regional basis
- ▶ Invest in providing accessible labour market intelligence

Findings 3

Enhancement of Enterprise Engagement

- ▶ Implement a prog with enterprise sector to highlight the benefits to enterprise of participating in career guidance
- ▶ Initiate supports for employers to facilitate career guidance inputs and quality work experience
- ▶ Introduce measures to increase participation of students, parents and teachers at expanded number of regional career fairs/workshops
- ▶ Widen access to work experience progs and apprenticeships
- ▶ Encourage co-op among groups schools for joint enterprise arrngmts

Findings 4

Promotion of inclusion

- ▶ Introduce a specific module on career guidance as part of training for teachers to special schools
- ▶ Provide access for special education and adult learners to the prop. enhanced central career support services, incl info labour market ops
- ▶ Provide additional specialised ongoing CPD supports for teachers in special schools
- ▶ Prioritise resource allocation, incl guidance teachers for learners most in need

Next steps

- ▶ Minister launched the review on 24th April
- ▶ Established internal taskforce, chaired initially by SG
- ▶ Examine recommendations, develop prioritised implementation plan
- ▶ First task – look at options for establishment of support organisation, which inter alia will oversee technology facilitated guidance services
- ▶ Taskforce will consult with key stakeholders in undertaking its work
- ▶ Look forward to hearing deliberations of the Forum
- ▶ Plan will go to the Minister who will be monitoring progress

Thank you