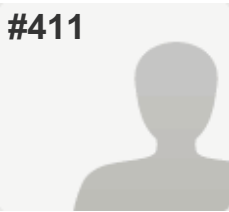


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PAGE 1: Please complete this consultation paper in respect of your area of interest and/or expertise

Q1: Name:	Mary Meaney
Q2: Organisation:	Institute of Technology Blanchardstown
Q3: Email:	mary.meaney@itb.ie

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Q4: 1(a) What improvements can be made within existing resources

My comments relate to one specific aspect of Irish educational policy, the Technological Universities Bill 2015. In order to effectively complete our ongoing transformational change to a technological university, we request completion of the enactment of the Technological Universities Bill 2015 as soon as possible. We also request that the legislation schedule is completed against a publicised timeline. This legislation is critical to allow the momentum developed to date around our transformational programme to continue. Staff confidence that the legislation will be enacted in a timely way is essential to allow us to proceed enthusiastically with this important transformational initiative for higher education in the Dublin region.

We realise that some level of stakeholder engagement is necessary to complete the passage of legislation. We would be happy to engage with appropriate stakeholders to accelerate this process, if considered appropriate.

The rationale for this request is that Dublin Institute of Technology, Institute of Technology Tallaght and Institute of Technology Blanchardstown have developed a collaboration to seek designation as a technological university. This initiative is aligned to priorities of the National Strategy for Higher Education to 2030. Staff of the constituent Institutions of The TU4Dublin alliance have engaged enthusiastically and energetically with this aspect of Government policy since 2011. The preparation work to reach our current stage of the designation process involved significant effort and commitment by a broad range of staff in the three institutions. It also involved significant investment of resources, both in real cash terms and in opportunity cost. The consequence of this investment is that our consortium successfully passed stage three of the four-stage process in December 2014, and have advanced planning to the point of implementation stage in preparation for designation. Our compelling case for developing a technological university for Dublin will not be rehearsed here, but it was accepted by the International panel tasked with reviewing our application as part of stage 3 of the process. The report is available here:

<http://www.heai.ie/news/publication-technological-university-stage-3-reports>

Thank you for this opportunity to input to the Department of Education and Skills Statement of Strategy 2016-2018.

Q5: 1(b) What improvements can be made through new provision

Respondent skipped this question

PAGE 3

Q6: 2. Comment on work currently being undertaken by the Department in your area of interest and/or expertise. (What are we doing well, what could we do better)?

The preparation of the Technological University legislation was completed in a professional and consultative manner but the lack of clarity on the proposed timetable for re-introduction to the Houses of the Oireachtas is a cause for concern.

PAGE 4

Q7: 3. Are there opportunities (e.g. new areas of work) which the Department should consider when developing the 2016 - 2018 strategy which would advance the achievement of our mission, vision and objectives across the continuum of education and skills?

It is important that the department focuses on completing current projects prior to commencing new initiatives.

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Q8: 4. How should success on achieving our strategies be measured.

Measurement should take place against published timelines and KPI's

PAGE 6

Q9: 5. Comment on any issues relating to the continuum of education and skills, in addition to your particular area of interest and/or expertise

The issue of participation in education needs to be considered as a continuum with greater recognition for the significant role the Institute of Technology sector plays in this important area.

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Q10: 6. Any other observations that you would suggest the Department should consider in the formulation of our strategy for education and skills 2016 - 2018

I believe it is important to complete the significant number of strategic actions currently underway.

PAGE 8: A Programme for a Partnership Government - Chapter 10: Education

Q11: 1(a) Comment on the approach contained in the Programme for a Partnership Government (are we capturing the essential issues, are there additional matters we should take into account).

Respondent skipped this question

Q12: 1(b) How should progress on Prioritising Early Years be measured?

Respondent skipped this question

Q13: 1(c) What would you consider to be the priority actions and outcomes in this area?

Respondent skipped this question

PAGE 9: A Programme for a Partnership Government - Chapter 10: Education

Q14: 2(a) Comment on the approach contained in the Programme for a Partnership Government (are we capturing the essential issues, are there additional matters we should take into account).

Respondent skipped this question

Q15: 2(b) How should progress on Tackling Disadvantaged be measured?

Respondent skipped this question

Q16: 2(c) What would you consider to be the priority actions and outcomes in this area?

Respondent skipped this question

PAGE 10: A Programme for a Partnership Government - Chapter 10: Education

Q17: 3(a) Comment on the approach contained in the Programme for a Partnership Government (are we capturing the essential issues, are there additional matters we should take into account).

Respondent skipped this question

Q18: 3(b) How should progress on Diversity and Choice for Parents be measured?

Respondent skipped this question

Q19: 3(c) What would you consider to be the priority actions and outcomes in this area?

Respondent skipped this question

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Q20: 4(a) Comment on the approach contained in the Programme for a Partnership Government (are we capturing the essential issues, are there additional matters we should take into account).

Respondent skipped this question

Q21: 4(b) How should progress on Promoting Excellence and Innovation in Schools be measured?

Respondent skipped this question

Q22: 4(c) What would you consider to be the priority actions and outcomes in this area?

Respondent skipped this question

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Q23: 5(a) Comment on the approach contained in the Programme for a Partnership Government (are we capturing the essential issues, are there additional matters we should take into account).

Respondent skipped this question

Q24: 5(b) How should progress on Promoting Creativity and Entrepreneurial Capacity in Students be measured?	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q25: 5(c) What would you consider to be the priority actions and outcomes in this area?	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

PAGE 13: A Programme for a Partnership Government - Chapter 10: Education

Q26: 6(a) Comment on the approach contained in the Programme for a Partnership Government (are we capturing the essential issues, are there additional matters we should take into account).	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q27: 6(b) How should progress on Making Better use of Educational Assets within Communities be measured?	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q28: 6(c) What would you consider to be the priority actions and outcomes in this area?	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

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Q29: 7(a) Comment on the approach contained in the Programme for a Partnership Government (are we capturing the essential issues, are there additional matters we should take into account).	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q30: 7(b) How should progress on Special Needs Education be measured?	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q31: 7(c) What would you consider to be the priority actions and outcomes in this area?	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

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Q32: 8(a) Comment on the approach contained in the Programme for a Partnership Government (are we capturing the essential issues, are there additional matters we should take into account).	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q33: 8(b) How should progress on Meeting the Skills Needs of the Future be measured?	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q34: 8(c) What would you consider to be the priority actions and outcomes in this area?	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>