

WORKING GROUP FOR CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR STATE EXAMINATIONS 2020

CLOCK TOWER, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS, MARLBOROUGH STREET

17 APRIL 2020, 14.30-17.30

- **Refreshments available from 14.00**
- **Seating will be arranged to ensure social distancing in the meeting room**
- **Parking is available on the grounds of the Department (to the rear of Block 2 and Block 3 on the north and south sides of the Clock Tower)**

AGENDA

1. Welcome

2. Purpose of work of this group

3. Scoping the issues that we need to examine

- Each group is asked to identify in advance four/five key areas which are of particular concern to their group and which they would like to see included on the future agenda of work of the Working Group
- Each group will be asked to speak briefly (max five minutes) to outline the four/five areas involved. The speaker should not address each of the issues in detail – the purpose will be to scope the range of issues that need to be included in the work programme
- If an issue that you have listed has been raised by a previous speaker, please don't repeat it! (Even worse, don't say that you won't repeat it and do exactly that!)
- If possible, for each of the issues raised, the speaker should propose an approach/approaches that could be considered as part of the solution

4. Questioning, listening and thinking

- Summary by chair will attempt to categorise the issues into possible common areas of work
- Chair will invite members to ask questions and seek clarifications from other groups about the issues and possible solutions that they have identified

5. Identifying the work agenda

- General work agenda
- Issues for consideration at next meeting

Background papers supplied:

It is expected that members will have familiarised themselves in advance with the contents of the following:

- Press statement of Minister for Education and Skills re postponement of State examinations, 10 April 2020 (enclosed) (This document and other DES documentation relating to managing impact of Covid-19 virus can be found at the following DES website link - <https://www.education.ie/en/The-Department/Announcements/information-for-schools-preschools-and-third-level-institutions-on-the-coronavirus.html>)
- Press statement issued by State Examinations Commission re postponement of State Examinations, 10 April 2020 (enclosed)
- Questions and Answers issued by the State Examinations Commission re postponement of the State Examinations, 10 April 2020 (enclosed)
- Submission of issues of concern to students, arising from meeting between DES and ISSU, 14 April 2020
- Background information Note on State Examinations 2020 (to follow)

Dates of future meetings all at 11.30-14.00 unless otherwise agreed

- Wednesday, 22 April 2020
- Friday, 24 April 2020
- Friday, 1 May 2020
- Friday, 8 May 2020
- Friday, 15 May 2020
- Friday, 22 May 2020
- Friday, 29 May 2020