

Meeting of the Public Service Pay Commission
12th September 2017 at 8.30am, St. Stephen's Green House.

In attendance

Mr Kevin Duffy (Chair)
Ms. Marian Corcoran
Mr Ultan Courtney
Ms. Ruth Curran
Mr Seán Lyons
Mr Peter McLoone

Ms. Aine Stapleton (Secretary)
Mr Evan Coady (Secretariat)
Ms. Angelena Hollingsworth (Secretariat)
Ms. Karen Murphy (Secretariat)
Ms. Susan McKiernan (Secretariat)

The Chairman welcomed everyone back after the summer break and introduced the incoming Secretary, Ms. Aine Stapleton to the wider Membership. Apologies from Mr Noel Dowling were also recorded.

The Chairman then updated Members on discussions which he had been invited to attend, between the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform and the Public Services Committee of ICTU over the summer months, arising from Section 3 of the Public Service Stability Agreement 2018-2020. Section 3 of the Agreement referenced Paragraph 6.35 of the Commission's first Report which stated that, "consideration could be given to commissioning a more comprehensive examination of underlying difficulties in recruitment and retention in those sectors and employment streams where difficulties are clearly evident". The Agreement further states that the Commission will conduct a comprehensive examination and analysis of recruitment and retention issues in the public service and will be asked to complete the exercise by end 2018.

It was anticipated that the Agreement would be ratified on the 18th September and that the Commission would be instructed by the Minister for Finance and Public Expenditure and Reform to commence this next phase of its work in late September/early October.

The Commission had a provisional discussion regarding the approach to Phase II, which it was also anticipated would be approached on a modular basis. The Commission noted that it would be very helpful if Minister Donohoe and Secretary General Watt were available to attend an early meeting of the Commission, to discuss Phase II.

The Secretariat provided an update on some preparatory work that it was undertaking in anticipation of Phase II and circulated a summary of recruitment and retention issues raised during Phase I, a list of available data sources and contacts which had been compiled, and a proposed schedule of meetings in accordance with an interim report being available at end June 2018.

Action points

- Secretariat to invite Minister Donohoe and Secretary General Watt to attend an early meeting in Phase II.
- Secretariat to progress literature review. Mr Lyons to provide Secretariat with some further reference material.
- Secretariat to prepare a roadmap for Phase II for next meeting (October 3rd.)
- Secretariat to recirculate updated timeline and schedule of meetings.

Ken O'Connell
3rd October 2017