



Communiqué for the Employment Services Advisory Group

15 July 2021

The Employment Services Advisory Group met on Thursday 15 July 2021, chaired by the Department of Education, Skills and Employment.

The importance of the probity plan and the requirements to preserve the integrity of the procurement process was reiterated to members.

Members received an update on the implementation of the Local Jobs Program implementation and outcomes to date.

The department provided members with information on the research undertaken for the New Employment Services Trial (NEST) advising that the evaluation is ongoing throughout the Trial.

An update on the progress of the Digital Employment Services Platform and the feedback received from recent consultation forums on system design was provided to members. The department sought feedback from members on how to engage most effectively with their broader stakeholder cohorts, including individuals.

Members discussed the Points Based Activation System being trialled in the NEST regions, including feedback received from job seekers and providers and considered what changes may be possible for future enhancements to the policy.

The department outlined strategies it is considering for an employer service offer, including the introduction of the Workforce Specialists in the new model. Members provided feedback that it will be important for the department to establish a strong communication strategy for the introduction of the new model and the proposed approach to employer engagement in the NESM.

Members were briefed on the research being undertaken to enhance the initial assessment that a job seeker undertakes when first receiving employment services and were provided the opportunity to send in feedback on the research approach to inform a prototype design.

The next meeting of the Employment Services Advisory Group is scheduled for September 2021.