

Meeting of the Implementation Body on Thursday 30 September 2010

Present: PJ Fitzpatrick (Chair), Oonagh Buckley & Victoria Cahill (Secretariat).

Public Service Unions: Tom Geraghty Shay Cody, Patricia King

Public Service Management: Ciaran Connolly, Brendan Duffy, Philip Kelly

Apologies: Sheila Nunan

1. Minutes of the previous meeting to be revised and re-circulated.
4. The issue of Labour Court & Implementation Body interaction on the Agreement was discussed. It was agreed that, where possible, existing sectoral mechanisms should be utilised when managing disputes. Thereafter, sectoral bodies could field further issues. It was noted that the Labour Court's main issue centered around process & procedure – in the main, cases would travel the normal route, however, some cases may need to be processed via Section 20(2) of the Industrial Relations Act 1975 in order to expedite them.

In terms of jurisdiction for interpretation of the Agreement, it was agreed that a letter be drafted by the Secretariat to the Labour Court. This issue should also be broached with the chairs of the sectoral implementation bodies.

5. The Chair updated members on the status of sectoral implementation bodies:
 - The Garda sectoral body is to schedule their 1st meeting mid-October
 - The Education sectoral body is yet to be established – an independent chair with an overarching remit is preferable, with management/union representation floating depending on the issues at hand.
6. Opening statement & minutes from Local Government Sectoral Body 1st meeting was circulated to members. The Health Sectoral Body to convene their 1st meeting on 6th October.
7. The Secretariat informed members of action plans received to date. In terms of the ImpBody role in relation to action plans – the Body should agree whether they adequately reflect the PSA.

Members agreed to convene a special meeting to appraise action plans – 2pm 18th October 2010. It is intended that action plans be available on the Implementation Body website once cleared.

8. It was agreed that it was premature to discuss periodic reporting arrangements until action plans have been considered by the Body.
9. Compliance issue – section 13 of PSA was discussed. Agreed that Department of Finance follow-up with National Procurement Office and revert.