Expert Group on Future Skills Needs

Draft Minutes of Meeting No. 74
of the Expert Group on Future Skills Needs
4th December 2017 at 3pm
Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation, Kildare Street

Present:	Tony Donohoe	Chair
	Helen McMahon	Enterprise Ireland
	Bryan Fields	SOLAS
	Selen Guerin	SOLAS
	Kathleen Gavin	Department of Education & Skills
	Kevin Daly	DBEI
	Ray Bowe	IDA
	Vivienne Patterson	HEA
Apologies:	Peter Rigney	ICTU
	Mark Christal	Enterprise Ireland
	Mary Doyle	Department of Education & Skills
In Attendance from Secretariat:	Alan Power	DBEI
	Don O'Connor	DBEI
	Andrew Moloney	DBEI

1.   Minutes of EGFSN Meeting Number 73

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

2.   LinkedIn representative

The Chair invited LinkedIn to present to the group regarding their research work.

A.   LinkedIn outlined the work that is being undertaken to develop the "Economic Graph" which is interlinked with LinkedIn's overarching mission to develop and connect a network of professionals across the world. The Economic Graph is a map of the labour market and conditions within the labour market in near real time that is developed with LinkedIn data.

B.   It was outlined that LinkedIn currently work in Policy Partnerships across Europe. These partnerships are done in conjunction with Cities and Government Officials to determine skills shortages and policy recommendations.

C.   The Brussels Policy partnership was further elaborated upon, the core of LinkedIn's work in Brussels was to assess the skills shortages that needed to be addressed to make Brussels a digital economy.

D.   LinkedIn also outlined their research projects and their collaboration projects throughout the years and their thought leadership work.

LinkedIn noted that there are caveats around the data collected that LinkedIn has more data on high tech high skilled jobs while lower skilled jobs would be omitted from the analysis.

It was asked if LinkedIn can Identify underemployment in their data, it was noted that they can see this.

LinkedIn data can go back four to five years and the data sets are largest in countries where LinkedIn has a large presence in the market.

3. Indeed Presentation

A. Indeed outlined their data on labour search within the EU. It was noted that the share of Irish looking for a job within the EU reduced in the 2015-2017 and that this could be attributed to several factors such as labour market conditions in Ireland or political conditions elsewhere (Brexit).

B. Indeed looked at the Impact of Brexit on Cross-Border job searches. Of those looking abroad in the EU, the UK was one of the most popular before Brexit, while after Brexit there was a fall in the number of job searches in the UK.

C. Indeed outlined some of their data surrounding Generational Preferences and Jobs.

D. Finally, Indeed noted the dispersion of tech-based jobs within the UK. There is no clear trend surrounding tech-based jobs. However, it is noted that Tech Hubs are becoming more prevalent within the UK as higher paid jobs become more concentrated in various regions with 1/10 of jobs in London being tech-based.

Discussion
It was noted that it would be interesting to assess which hubs are more attractive than others and to see if such an assessment could help inform policy decisions surrounding tech hub development.

4. DTTAS Proposal for an assessment of skills demand within the aviation industry

DTTAS Aviation Services Unit made a presentation on a proposal for an in-depth evaluation of a skills gap within the aviation sector.

DTTAS noted some statistics around the aviation sector outlining that there are two main areas within the aviation industry that would be assessed in the review. These include 1) "Training, skills and Education", which is particularly focused on pilot training and increasing supply of professional pilots. and 2) The Maintenance, repair and oversight section of the area which focuses on the background work of the aviation industry where it is noted that supply is a constraint.

Discussion
It was asked if there is a link between leasing and other activities in the sector and if there is a skill cross over within the aviation industry from leasing. It was noted in response that the leasing area of aviation is finance heavy and there is a limited skill transfer from one area to another within aviation.

It was noted that pilots that are proposed to be trained by government backed scheme are very mobile and there is a risk of brain drain following the training of pilots.

It was also noted that the pilot training sector is a very commercial sector in training and that it is very expensive.

The EGFSN discussed the proposal and decided not to prioritise it for an EGFSN study based on its scale.

5. Work Programme 2017/8 Project Updates

The chair invited the members of the group to outline the progress on their respective projects within the area.

5.a ICT Action Plan Demand Analysis

It was noted that the project is progressing well and that the second steering group meeting is scheduled for 8th of December. The consultants are achieving all milestones on the timeline and the project is expected to be complete by end Q1, 2018.

5.b Brexit - Skills Impact

It was noted that the project is progressing well and that the first steering group meeting is scheduled for late December. Consultants have been selected and the procurement process will conclude on 8 Dec. The project is expected to be complete by end Q1, 2018.

5.c Early Childhood Education

Consultants have been engaged and are developing a first iteration of the model based on thorough analysis and stakeholder engagement. The project is expected to be complete by end Q1, 2018.

5.d Design Skills Demand Analysis & 5.e Skills for the Digital Economy

These projects are still at the pre-procurement phase. The aim is to commence procurement in January and to complete the projects the end of Q2 2018.

6. AOB & Meeting for Next Date

Two potential dates for the next meeting the 8th of March and the 28th of March were nominated. The secretariat will update the EGFSN on a preferred date at a later point in time.