

Expert Group on the Role of Ventilation in Reducing Transmission of COVID-19

Meeting 2

11am Friday 5th February 2021

(By Videoconference)

Present

Prof John Wenger (Chair)	UCC
Mr Sean Armstrong	DHLGH
Dr Marie Coggins	NUIG
Dr Laura Heavey	HSE
Asst Prof Orla Hegarty	UCD
Mr Simon Jones	IEA and Aereco Ltd.
Ms Edel Murray	DHLGH
Prof Mike Prentice	UCC
Mr Brendan Redington	HSE Estates
Dr Kim Roberts	TCD
Dr Thomas Roux	HPSC

Apologies

Dr Ina Kelly	HSE
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MINUTES

1. Minutes from last meeting and matters arising

Minutes were edited during the meeting and approved. It was agreed that the Group would benefit from consultation with representatives from HSA and OPW. The Chair has reached out to AMRIC and HIQA regarding involvement with the Group.

2. Discussion on work plan

The work plan, consisting of (i) first report to NPHE, (ii) preparation of a general document on ventilation, (iii) review of the latest HPSC guidance document on non-healthcare building ventilation, was briefly discussed and approved.

3. Terms of Reference

The re-drafted Terms of Reference were discussed. Agreement was made on points 1-5 during the meeting. Point 6 needs to be edited.

4. First letter/report to NPHE

The draft letter/report was briefly discussed. It was noted that the importance of adopting the precautionary principle should be emphasized, especially in light of the recent high levels of

transmission. Group members are invited to provide comments and suggested edits with the aim of delivering a more appropriate draft for discussion during the next meeting.

5. General document on ventilation

It was agreed that the Group could start work on this.

6. Update on Priority Areas

Sub-group on nursing homes have already met and work is in progress.

Sub-group on schools will meet soon, pending participation of DoE representative.

Composition of sub-groups in the following areas was decided; risk assessment tools, healthcare environments, residential accommodation (private and institutional) and transport (private and public).

7. Any Other Business

None.

8 February 2021