



RE: St Angelas College

Neil McDermott

to:

'PAC'

20/03/2018 14:19

Cc:

Graham Love, Tim Conlon, Sarah Fitzgerald

Hide Details

From: Neil McDermott <nmcdermott@hea.ie>

To: 'PAC' <PAC/Oireachtas@oireachtas.ie>,

Cc: Graham Love <glove@hea.ie>, Tim Conlon <tconlon@hea.ie>, Sarah Fitzgerald <sfitzgerald@hea.ie>

Dear Ms Falsey,

I refer to your letter of the 14 November 2017, setting out the Public Accounts Committee's request for a detailed information note, and to be kept apprised of developments, in respect of the incorporation of National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG) and St Angela's College, Sligo.

Since my letter of December 21<sup>st</sup>, I set out below a further update on progress towards the incorporation:

The name, leadership structure and governance of the new School of Nursing and Midwifery has been agreed. A joint programme in mental health has been agreed and significant work has been done on expanding the international offering on both campuses. Given the progress and work underway, consideration is being given to aligning the existing schools *pre-incorporation*, facilitating, for example, the Athena Swan designation currently being sought as a single School across two sites.

In terms of Education and Home Economics, student numbers, pending confirmation from the Department of Education, will increase next September in response to identified shortages in Home Economics and Gaeilge. (DES Teacher Supply in Ireland Report 2017<sup>1</sup>) Considerable work on both sites is underway in preparation for the closing visit of Prof. Pasi Sahlberg in May, to review progress to date since his 2012 report on Initial Teacher Education, which led to the incorporation. Agreement has been reached on aligning Masters Programmes in St. Angela's with Masters Programmes in NUI Galway and a one-year Diploma in Leadership is being offered across both sites. A joint campus project for broadening participation and access to ITE has secured significant government support. (PATH1 HEA €294,000)

Thirteen St. Angela's staff (including Academic and Support) are being supported in their professional development through NUI Galway's Further Education Policy. Under the Framework Services Agreement signed by both institutions at the end of 2017 seven Statements of Work have been agreed with a further six in draft form. A €300,000 project to upgrade the ICT network in St. Angela's will be completed after Easter and will be commissioned when a break in teaching allows. This will significantly improve ICT capacity, durability, security and Wi-Fi coverage for students and staff.

At an institutional level, the broad thrust of the Business Transfer Agreement has been agreed between NUI Galway, St. Angela's and the Ursuline Union. Progress is being made in engaging with the outstanding issues relating to student residences adjacent to the St. Angela's campus, and it's hoped a path to resolution will be clear over the coming weeks.

Both NUI Galway and St Angela's College remain fully committed to the completion of the

incorporation project and as set out, significant progress towards institutional incorporation, and administrative and academic systems alignment has been made to date. It remains the intention of both institutions to resolve outstanding issues in respect of access rights and move to a full Business Transfer Agreement in a timely manner. It is anticipated that the incorporation will be finalised by the end of 2018 and we will provide further updates as the project develops.

Yours sincerely,



Graham Love

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**From:** Neil McDermott  
**Sent:** 21 December 2017 10:40  
**To:** 'PAC' <PAC/Oireachtas@oireachtas.ie>; Jacintha Healy <jacintha@hea.ie>  
**Cc:** Graham Love <glove@hea.ie>  
**Subject:** RE: St Angelas College

Dear Ms Falsey,

I refer to your letter of the 14 November 2017, setting out the Public Accounts Committee's request for a detailed information note, and to be kept apprised of developments, in respect of the incorporation of National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG) and St Angela's College, Sligo.

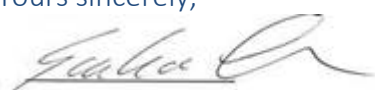
As you aware from previous correspondence provided by the Department of Education and Skills, NUIG and St Angela's College, dated October 2017, both institutions have set out the background to the incorporation, progress to date and confirmed that they are fully committed to the completion of the incorporation project, with significant milestones having already been achieved.

By way of update since the above correspondence, the HEA met with NUIG and St Angela's College on 14th December. Both institutions confirmed that they have signed a Framework Services Agreement which will facilitate existing and further collaboration and alignment with sectoral norms. It remains the intention of both autonomous institutions to resolve outstanding issues in respect of access rights and move to a full Business Transfer Agreement. It is anticipated that the incorporation will be finalised by the end of 2018.

As regards funding, in mid-November, the Minister for Higher Education, Mary Mitchell O'Connor T.D., announced the allocation of €6.3 million in support of the ongoing restructuring of the higher education landscape. Funding of € 210,000 was allocated to the NUIG and St Angela's College incorporation project, in respect of outcomes set out in their submission to the HEA, including delivery of institutional incorporation; administrative and academic systems alignment; and staff development and capacity building. This brings the total HEA funding to date to € 1,860,000.

We trust that this provides an update on the incorporation project to year end 2017 and will provide further updates throughout 2018, as the project develops.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Graham Love  
Chief Executive

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**From:** Margaret Falsey [<mailto:Margaret.Falsey@Oireachtas.ie>] **On Behalf Of** PAC  
**Sent:** 15 November 2017 12:51  
**To:** Jacintha Healy  
**Cc:** Neil McDermott  
**Subject:** St Angelas College

Hi Jacintha,

I attach a letter on behalf of the PAC regarding St Angelas College.

Kind regards  
Margaret Falsey  
PAC Secretariat  
016183074

*(See attached file: [PAC32-I-608] HEA re St Angelas college - meeting 09.11.2017.pdf) (See attached file: PAC32-R-851(ii) C - NUIG re St Angela's College.pdf)(See attached file: PAC32-R-851(iii) C - NUIG re St Angela's College Additional Info.pdf)(See attached file: PAC32-R-859(ii) C - DoE re St Angela's College.eml.pdf)(See attached file: PAC32-R-859(iii) C - DoE re St Angela's College.eml.pdf)*

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