

FROM THE PERMANENT SECRETARY
Mike Brennan



From: Mike Brennan

Date: 5 February 2021

To: Chris Stewart

Netherleigh

Section 40(2)

Section 40(2)

Tel: Section 40(2)

email: Section 40(2)

Dear Chris,

GRADUATE ENTRY MEDICAL SCHOOL (GEMS) PROJECT

Thank you for your emailed letter of 20 January 2021.

I am aware of the need for Departments to deliver Executive priorities and with no one else volunteering to do so, am willing to chair a cross-departmental working group to ensure that the requisite governance procedures are adhered to, and appropriate progress made on the GEMS proposal.

As I see it, the group will need to focus on two key areas: (i) a strand looking at clinical teaching aspects and justifying the number of entrants in line with the Executive announcement; and (ii) a strand covering any potential capital element of the project.

Since the policy relating to medical workforce planning rests with Department of Health (DOH), as Accounting Officer for DfE, any funding to flow through my Department will likely require assurances from the Accounting Officer of DoH around health policy matters beyond the strategic remit of DfE. Terms of Reference for the group will be drafted and shared in advance of the first meeting which will be arranged shortly.

In addition to myself as Chair, the working group will need to include:

- DoH Permanent Secretary
- DoH – Medical Workforce Planning
- DoH – Health Estates
- DfE – Higher Education
- Central Procurement Directorate
- Strategic Investment Board
- Ulster University

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Brennan', written in a cursive style.

MIKE BRENNAN
Permanent Secretary

Cc: Jenny Pyper
Sue Gray
Richard Pengelly