

Economics Development Group

Meeting 1

24th March 2015

Agenda: Feedback on the Background Paper for Economics	Documentation/Discussion: The group discussed the strengths and weaknesses of the current syllabus. They reflected on their initial impressions of the findings from the Background Paper for Leaving Certificate Economics
Brief for the Economics Development Group	Members of the group had the opportunity to read through the brief and feedback on the expectations arising from the brief. The brief sets out the template and approach to the specification development and is included in the Background Paper for Economics.
Assessment	Members discussed their perspectives on assessment currently and what kind of assessment would best support learning at senior cycle.

These emerging issues were identified:

- The quantity of content on the course was recognised as a strength in terms of breadth. However, the importance of the specification to be forward-thinking and future proofed were emphasised.
- The potential for an inquiry approach to the teaching and learning of economics was recognised. A desire for more information on the inquiry approach was highlighted.
- Regarding assessment, the importance of developing students' key skills was emphasised e.g. Logical and numerical reasoning skills. The necessity of moving away from learnt-off answers was emphasised.
- A draft specification should be available for consultation in early 2016.

Next meeting:

The next meeting of the group is scheduled for **14th May 2015**.