

## **Special Education Teaching Allocation Appeals**

The Special Education Teaching Allocation Appeals process referenced in [NCSE 03/2017](#) has now concluded. In circumstances where a school considered that their school profile was calculated incorrectly an appeal could be submitted for a review of the calculation of the school's allocation.

Mr. Pádraic McNamara, former CEO of the State Examinations Commission was appointed by the NCSE as independent Appeals Officer to examine the appeals. Mr. McNamara examined the data used by the Education Research Centre in arriving at each appellant school's Special Education Teaching allocation.

558 appeals were received by the closing date, 487 appeals from Primary schools and 71 appeals from Post Primary schools.

294 (or 52.7%) of the schools appealed one component of their allocation.

264 schools appealed 2 or more components of their allocation.

In total, 826 calculations of the various components were required to be checked by Mr. McNamara for the 558 appellant schools.

Mr. McNamara has adjudicated that the data used by the ERC was used correctly in arriving at each school's allocation and no allocation has been altered on the basis of an appeal received.

However, Mr. McNamara suggested that further attention should be given by the Department of Education and Skills to a number of schools. These were schools where he considered that there was a significant increase in year on year enrolments or where it appeared that the school's social context had changed considerably.

As a result 131 schools, or 23.4% of the 558 appellant schools, will receive an increase in their original allocation.

Appeal decision letters will be issuing to all schools this week.