

Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann

Quality and Qualifications Ireland

APPROVALS AND REVIEWS COMMITTEE

Notes of the Thirty Ninth meeting of the QQI Approvals and Reviews Committee, held **on Tuesday 26 September 2023 at 10.30 am in 26/27 Denzille Lane, Dublin 2**

Participation:

Dr Sean Duignan (Chair)
Professor Fiona Farr
Ms Carol Hanney
Mr Billy Kelly
Dr Anna Murphy
Mr Ronan O'Loughlin
Mr Gerry O'Sullivan
Mr Bryan O'Mahony

In attendance:

Ms Gráinne Power, Secretary
Ms Marie Gould
Ms Marie Mattimoe
Ms Andrea Durnin
Ms Orla Barry

Apologies:

Ms Laura Flynn
Mr Tony Pettit

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Committee approved the agenda for the meeting. There were no other conflicts of interest in relation to any of the items of business before the Committee.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 20 JUNE 2023 (ARC/M38)

The Committee approved the Minutes of the ARC meeting held on 20 June 2023.

3. NOTES OF THE MEETING OF 20 JUNE 2023

The Committee approved the Notes of the ARC meeting held on 20 June 2023 which will be published on the QQI website.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Secretary informed the Committee the matter of Induction for new members would be addressed by the key executive member of the Committee in due course.

5. FOCUS GROUP TO INFORM THE SWOT ANALYSIS FOR THE QQI SELF ASSESSMENT REPORT – ENQA REVIEW

Marie Gould joined the meeting to carry out the SWOT Analysis.

5.1 The Committee provided feedback which will be incorporated in the overall SWOT analysis for the QQI SAR under the following headings – Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats. Marie Gould thanked the Committee for their very useful and informative feedback.

6. **QUALITY ASSURANCE PROCEDURES**

Marie Mattimoe joined the meeting to present items 6 and 7.

6.1 Approval of Draft Quality Assurance Procedures

The Committee noted the recommendation of the QQI executive (A39/6.1) based on the recommendation of the Quality and Capacity Evaluation Panel report (A39/6.2). Following discussion, the Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI executive to refuse to approve with recommendations, the application from the Applicant Provider.

7. **REPORT ON QUALITY ASSURANCE APPROVAL STATISTICS**

The Committee noted the Statistical Report on Quality Assurance Approvals 2018 – 2023YTD (A39/7) and thanked the QQI Executive for the informative report.

8. **CINTE CYCLICAL REVIEW – University College Cork (UCC)**

Andrea Durnin and Orla Barry joined the meeting to present items 8 and 9.

8.1 **Approval to Publish the Report of University College Cork (UCC)**

The Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI Executive to publish the final report and institutional response for the cyclical review of University College Cork.

9. **CINTE CYCLICAL REVIEW – National University of Ireland (NUI)**

9.1 **Approval to Publish the Report of National University of Ireland (NUI)**

The Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI Executive to publish the final report and institutional response for the cyclical review of National University of Ireland.

10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

10.1 Andrea Durnin informed the Committee of upcoming business from the TEMR unit for the Committee;

- Cainte Reviews – dates for publication of the report in 2024 and 2025
 - MTU – April/May 2024
 - TUS – July 2024
 - SETU – Q1, 2025
 - ATU - Q1, 2025
- Institutional Reviews of Independent/Private Providers (DBS, NCI, Griffith, Hibernia). Reports should be completed for 2 providers by Oct/Nov 2024 and the remaining two in Q1, 2025.

10.2 The Committee asked, if possible, to be kept informed of any upcoming QQI events/conferences that might be useful to attend.

10.3 The Committee raised the issue of communication between the QQI Board and the Committee. The Chair advised he would be happy to include any input from Committee as part of his report as Chair to the Board.

10.4 The next meeting of the Committee will take place in November - to be confirmed.

This concluded the business of the meeting.