PROGRAMMES AND AWARDS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (PAEC)

Tuesday 14 April 2015 at 9.30am
Boardroom, QQI Offices, 26-27 Denzille Lane, Dublin 2

Note of the tenth meeting of the QQI Programmes and Awards Executive Committee held in QQI offices, 26/27 Denzille Lane, Dublin 2 on **Tuesday 14 April 2015 at 9.30am**

PRESENT:	**In attendance:**
Dr Padraig Walsh (Chairperson)	Ms Therese Masterson (Key Executive)
Dr Rhona Dempsey	Ms Róisín Sweeney
Ms Angela Lambkin	Dr Peter Cullen (Item 9)
Dr Bryan Maguire	
Ms Karena Maguire	
Ms Trish O'Brien	
Ms Mary Sheridan	

APOLOGIES:
Ms Orla Lynch

1.   MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 18 FEBRUARY 2015

The minutes of the PAEC Meeting held on 18 February 2015 were CONFIRMED and SIGNED.

2.   MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

At the previous meeting the Committee deferred the decision to validate an application from one provider subject to Protection for Enrolled Learners (PEL) and monitoring requirements being fulfilled. It was noted that these were now fulfilled and the applications would be presented under item 4.1.1.

3.   NOTE OF THE MEETING, REPORT FOR THE BOARD

3.1 Note of Meeting of 19 November 2014
The Committee APPROVED the Note of the PAEC Meeting of 18 February for publication on the QQI website.

3.2 Report for the Board on the meeting of 18 February 2015
The Committee NOTED the Report for the Board on the PAEC Meeting of 18 February 2015.

4.   PROGRAMME VALIDATION APPLICATIONS

4.1.   Further Education and Training (FET) Programmes

4.1.1 FET Programme Validation applications

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated
and the detailed verbal report presented.

The Committee APPROVED the recommendations in respect of the validation of the programmes listed in the documentation subject to confirmation of arrangements for Protection of Enrolled Learners (PEL) and fees being paid to QQI. With regard to programme applications from one provider these are approved subject to conducting a verification visit to the facilities to ensure that they are satisfactory.

4.1.2 FET Summary Reports
The committee NOTED the documentation circulated and the detailed verbal report presented.

4.1.3 FET Programme Validation Applications Refusals
No business

4.2. Higher Education and Training Programme – Programme Validation

4.2.1 Hibernia College

The committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the validation of the following programmes for five years from September 2015 subject to confirmation of arrangements for Protection of Enrolled Learners:

4.2.1.1 Master of Arts in Education, Level 9 Major Award, 90 credits

4.2.2 National College of Ireland - Extension of Validation

The committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the extension to the current validation of the following programmes for one additional year from September 2015 subject to confirmation of arrangements for Protection of Enrolled Learners:

- Higher Certificate in Business, Level 6 Major Award, 120 credits
- Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Business, Level 8 Major Award, 180 credits
- Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Human Resource Management, Level 8 Major Award, 180 credits
- Bachelor of Arts in Management Practice, Level 7 Major Award, 180 credits
- Certificate in Management, Level 6, Minor Award, 30 credits

4.3. Devolution of Responsibility for Validation sub-processes

4.3.1 National College of Ireland

The committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the validation of the following programmes for five years from September 2015 subject to confirmation of arrangements for Protection of Enrolled Learners:

4.3.1.1 Higher Certificate in Science in Business Computing, Level 6 Major Award, 120 credits
4.3.1.2 Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Technology Management, Level 8 Major Award, 240 credits

4.4 Validation of Research Degree Programmes
No Business

4.5 Springboard Approvals
No Business

4.6 Initial Validation

4.6.1 Cater Care Limited
The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. Cater Care Limited applied to become a provider of programmes leading to FET awards made by QQI. It completed Stage 1 and was approved by the Approvals and Reviews Committee (ARC) on 3 November 2014 to move to Stage 2 of the process.

The Committee APPROVED the Initial Validation of three programmes, one leading to a minor award at Level 4, and two leading to minor awards at Level 5. It was NOTED that the Cater Care Ltd application represents the first complete application successfully through the QQI initial access policy. The Executive will inform the Board of this.

5. REVALIDATION

5.1 Hibernia College
The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and APPROVED the revalidation of the following programmes for five years from September 2015 subject to confirmation of arrangements for Protection of Enrolled Learners:

5.1.1   Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Medicine, Level 9 Major Award, 90 credits
Postgraduate Diploma in Pharmaceutical Medicine, Level 9 Major Award, 60 credits
Certificate in Medical Affairs, Level 9 Minor Award, 20 credits
Certificate in Clinical Trial Management, Level 9 Minor award, 20 credits
Certificate in Pharmaceutical Research and Development, Level 9 Minor Award, 20 credits

6. QA FOR COLLABORATIVE AND TRANSNATIONAL PROVISION AND JOINT AWARDING
No Business

7. DELEGATED AUTHORITY

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. Five institutes have applied for extension of their delegation of authority to enter into programmes leading to joint awards with other awarding bodies. Two of the institutes have applied for extension of their delegation of authority to include programmes leading to research Masters' awards. In each case, the Institute's registrar, on behalf of its Academic Council, has formally confirmed that the procedures and criteria set out in the appropriate Sectoral Protocols were being complied with.

The confirmation will be submitted for noting to the Approvals and Reviews Committee (ARC) at its meeting on 27 April 2015.

8. RECOGNITION

No Business

9. ROUTINE STANDARDS ACTIVITIES UPDATE

9.1 Request from ETBI for an extension to the deactivation dates for two awards

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated.

QQI received a request from ETBI on behalf of ETB colleges to extend the deactivation date of two Level 6 major awards (CNSSX) Networks and Software Systems and (CCNTX) Computer Network Technology to facilitate learners progressing from Level 5 into programmes leading to these awards. The Committee AGREED to this extension.

The Committee AGREED that in future, extensions to the deactivation dates should be agreed by the Executive and reported to the PAEC under routine changes advised.

10. CHANGE OF PROVIDER STATUS OF LEGACY HET AND FET PROVIDERS

10.1 The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and APPROVED the changes made to the status of the providers listed therein.