

## **PROGRAMMES AND AWARDS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (PAEC)**

**Tuesday 19 April 2016 at 11.30am**  
**Behan Training Room, 10 Lower Mount Street, Dublin 2**

Note of the seventeenth meeting of the QQI Programmes and Awards Executive Committee held in Behan Training Room, 10 Lower Mount Street, Dublin 2 on **Tuesday 19 April 2016 at 11.30am**

### **Present:**

Dr Pdraig Walsh (Chairperson)  
Ms Barbara Kelly  
Ms Angela Lambkin  
Dr Bryan Maguire  
Ms Karena Maguire  
Mr John O'Connor  
Dr Deirdre Stritch  
Ms Andrina Wafer

### **In attendance:**

Ms Therese Masterson (Key Executive)  
Ms Janet Cawley (Secretary)  
Dr Peter Cullen  
Mr Walter Balfe

## **1. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 23 FEBRUARY AND 11 APRIL 2016**

The minutes of the PAEC Meetings held on 23 February and 11 April 2016 were approved by the Committee.

## **2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

### **Health and Safety Services Training and Consultancy Ltd (HSS) – PG21365**

The Executive received a communication from Mary-Liz Trant in SOLAS and the matter is now resolved. The Executive has informed the provider that the programme has been validated.

Any other matters arising fell within agenda items and were discussed during the course of the meeting.

## **3. NOTE OF THE MEETING, REPORT FOR THE BOARD**

### **3.1 Note of Meeting of 23 February 2016**

The committee APPROVED the Note of the PAEC Meeting of 23 February 2016, for publication on the QQI website.

### **3.2 Report for the Board on the meeting of 23 February 2016**

The Committee NOTED the Report for the Board on the PAEC Meeting of 23 February 2016 .

## **4. PROGRAMME VALIDATION APPLICATIONS**

### **4.1. Further Education and Training (FET) Programmes**

#### **4.1.1 FET Programme Validation applications**

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

The Committee APPROVED the recommendations in respect of the validation of the programmes listed in the documentation.

The Committee noted that the Maths for STEM programme (PG22355) was evaluated by a panel of experts. The Panel indicated verbally its intention to recommend validation of the programme. However, the Executive is awaiting the panel report. Following discussion, the Committee AGREED to validate the programme subject to receipt of the report.

The Committee was updated on the recent changes for programme validation applications including;

- newly designed templates for providers and evaluators
- extra information required from providers e.g. tutor/trainer information
- evaluators names appearing on reports
- all programmes are evaluated by two evaluators (one with expertise in the specific area)
- evaluation reports sent to providers for factual accuracy check
- new evaluators are being recruited

#### **4.1.2 FET Programme Evaluation Reports**

The Committee NOTED the FET Programme Evaluation Reports circulated.

### **4.2 Higher Education and Training Programmes – Programme Validation**

#### **4.2.1 The Open Training College**

The committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The 10 programmes listed in 4.2.1.1 below were new programmes submitted for validation, but included by the provider as part of their programmatic review. The Committee DEFERRED validation of these new programmes subject to receipt of validation reports.

- 4.2.1.1 Certificate in Supporting and Working with Families, Level 7, Special Purpose Award, 10 Credits  
Certificate in Quality and Risk in Service Delivery, Level 6, Special Purpose Award, 20 Credits  
Certificate in Autism, Wellbeing and Positive Behaviour Supports, Level 7, Special Purpose Award, 20 Credits  
Certificate in Empowerment and Advocacy, Level 6, Minor Award, 10 Credits  
Certificate in Supporting Individualised Living and Alternative Services, Level 8, Minor Award, 10 Credits  
Certificate in Active Inclusion, Level 7, Minor Award, 10 Credits  
Certificate in Social Care Practice and Ethics, Level 6, Minor Award, 10 Credits  
Certificate in Communication and Interpersonal Skills in Social Care, Level 6, Minor Award, 10 Credits  
Certificate in Focus on the Individual, Level 6, Minor Award, 15 Credits  
Certificate in Exploring Disability, Level 6, Minor Award, 10 Credits  
Certificate in Current Issues in Social Care: Mental Health, Elder Care and Children, Level 8, Minor Award, 10 Credits

### **4.3 Devolution of Responsibility for Validation sub-processes**

#### **4.3.1 National College of Ireland**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and APPROVED the validation of the following programme for five years from September 2016:

- 4.3.1.1 Certificate in Financial Regulating for Consumer Protection, Level 8, Special Purpose Award, 15 Credits

### **4.4 Validation of Research Degree Programmes**

No Business

#### **4.5 Springboard Approvals**

No Business

#### **4.6 Initial Validation**

No Business

### **5. REVALIDATION**

#### **5.1 Dublin Business College**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and APPROVED the revalidation of the following programme for five years from April 2016:

5.1.1 Bachelor of Business in Retail Management, Level 7, Major Award, 180 Credits

#### **5.2 IICP Education and Training Limited**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and APPROVED the revalidation of the following programmes for five years from 1 September 2016:

- 5.2.1 BA (Hons) in Integrative Counselling and Psychotherapy, Level 8, Major Award, 240 Credits  
Bachelor of Arts in Integrative Counselling and Psychotherapy, Level 7, Major Award, 180 Credits  
Higher Certificate in Arts in Counselling and Psychotherapeutic Studies, Level 6, Major Award, 120 Credits  
Certificate in Counselling and Psychotherapeutic Studies, Level 6, Special Purpose Award, 20 Credits

#### **5.3 The Open Training College**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and APPROVED the revalidation of the following programmes for five years from 1 September 2016:

- 5.3.1 Bachelor of Arts in Professional Social Care (Disability), Level 7, Major Award, 180 Credits  
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Professional Social Care (Disability), Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits

### **6. QA FOR COLLABORATIVE AND TRANSNATIONAL PROVISION**

No Business

### **7. APPROVAL OF QUALITY ASSURANCE PROCEDURES FOR LEGACY PROVIDERS (RE-ENGAGEMENT)**

No Business

### **8. EXTENSION OF DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY BY LEVEL/FIELD**

- 8.1** The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and APPROVED the extension of delegation of authority to **Dundalk Institute of Technology** to enter into programmes leading to joint awards with other awarding bodies. The Executive reported that the Institute's registrar, on behalf of its Academic Council, had formally confirmed that the procedures and criteria set out in the *Sectoral Protocols for the Delegation of Authority by QQI to Institutes of Technology to make Joint Awards* are being complied with.

### **9. ROUTINE STANDARDS ACTIVITIES UPDATE**

#### **9.1 FRAMEWORK STANDARDS AND GUIDANCE (FSG) – Tracking of Adjustments to Published Standards**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated which included a report from the FSG Unit to the PAEC and a list of award modifications recording adjustments to published award standards. The Committee APPROVED the adjustments made to QBS during the period 1 July 2015 - 4 April 2016.

## **10. CHANGE OF REGISTRATION PROVIDER STATUS OF LEGACY HET AND FET PROVIDERS**

No Business

## **11. REPORT FROM THE PROGRAMMES AND AWARDS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

### **11.1 Report from the Programmes and Awards Oversight Committee on the meeting of 14 April 2016**

The Committee NOTED the oral report from the Executive that the PAOC had confirmed the decision of the PAEC at its meeting on 23 February to refuse validation of three programmes. It was NOTED that the Executive communicated the decision of the PAOC and reasons for refusal to the respective providers.

## **12. PROVISION OF REPORTS FOR THE PROGRAMMES AND AWARDS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

The Committee AGREED that the reports of the PAEC to the Board should be provided to the PAOC for information.

The Committee NOTED that one of the functions of the PAOC is to make recommendations on the strategic direction of the activities of the PAEC. It was AGREED that the PAEC will prepare a paper for the PAOC that will give an indication of the strategic direction of the activities of the PAEC.

## **13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.