

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

**Wednesday 19 July 2017 at 9.30am**

**Boardroom, QQI, 26-27 Denzille Lane, Dublin 2**

Note of the twenty-seventh meeting of the QQI Programmes and Awards Executive Committee held in the Boardroom, QQI, 26-27 Denzille Lane, Dublin 2 on **Wednesday 19 July at 9.30am**

### **Present:**

Dr Pdraig Walsh (Chairperson)  
Ms Angela Lambkin  
Ms Karena Maguire  
Mr John O'Connor  
Ms Andrina Wafer  
Ms Róisín Sweeney

### **In attendance:**

Ms Therese Masterson (Key Executive)  
Mr Walter Balfe  
Dr Peter Cullen  
Ms Alex Keys  
Ms Mairéad Boland

### **Apologies:**

Dr Bryan Maguire  
Ms Barbara Kelly  
Dr Deirdre Stritch (Maternity Leave)

## **1. MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

**1.1** The Minutes of the PAEC Meeting held on 14 June 2017 were approved by the Committee.

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

There were no Matters Arising from the Minutes.

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

### **3.1 Note of Meeting of 14 June 2017**

The Committee APPROVED the Note of the PAEC Meeting of 14 June 2017, for publication on the QQI website.

### **3.2 Report for the Board on the meeting of 14 June 2017**

The Committee NOTED the Report for the Board on the PAEC Meeting of 14 June.

### **3.3 Membership of the PAEC with effect from July 2017**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee NOTED that the Board, at an incorporeal meeting held on 21/22 June, approved the temporary appointment of Róisín Sweeney to replace Deirdre Stritch on the PAEC for the remainder of Deirdre's maternity leave.

## 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.

#### 4.1.2 FET Programme Evaluation Reports

The Committee NOTED the FET Programme Evaluation Reports circulated.

#### 4.1.3 Further Education and Training (FET) Programmes – Pilot Evaluation

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the validation of the following programmes, using a shared curriculum of the ETBs listed below, for two years from 1 September 2017 subject to proposed special conditions in the panel report and all the conditions from the 2016 validation policy listed in the proposed Certificate of Validation:

**Programme:** Digital Media Production, Level 6, Major Award, 120 FET Credits

**Providers:** Dublin and Dún Laoghaire ETB  
Cavan and Monaghan ETB  
City of Dublin ETB  
Cork ETB  
Kildare and Wicklow ETB  
Galway and Roscommon ETB  
Limerick and Clare ETB

The Committee NOTED that this was the first non-apprenticeship FET programme to be submitted for validation under the 2016 validation policy. Seven ETBs were involved, with Dublin and Dún Laoghaire ETB leading the curriculum development process. The shareable curriculum, developed with the involvement of all seven providers, will be used by each of the participating ETBs in their delivery of the programme. There may, however, be variation among providers in respect of the programme's implementation.

### 4.2 Higher Education and Training Programmes - Programme Validation

#### 4.2.1 College of Computing Technology

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the validation of the following programme for five years from 1 September 2017 subject to proposed special conditions in the panel report and all the conditions from the 2016 validation policy listed in the proposed Certificate of Validation:

4.2.1.1 Higher Diploma in Science in Computing, Level 8, Major Award, 75 Credits.

### **4.2.3 Hibernia College**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the validation of the following programme for five years from January 2018 subject to proposed special conditions in the panel report and all the conditions from the 2016 validation policy listed in the proposed Certificate of Validation:

4.2.3.1 Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Nursing in General Nursing, Level 8, Major Award, 240 Credits.

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

No Business

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

No Business

### **4.5 Springboard Approvals**

No Business

### **4.6 Apprenticeship Programmes**

#### **4.6.1 SOLAS**

The Committee NOTED the explanatory memorandum circulated. The Committee NOTED the other documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the validation of the following programmes for five years from 1 September 2017 subject to proposed special conditions in the panel reports and all the conditions from the 2016 validation policy listed in the proposed Certificates of Validation:

- 4.6.1.1 Advanced Certificate Craft in Industrial Insulation, Level 6, Major Award, 240 FET Credits
- 4.6.1.2 Advanced Certificate Craft in Sheet Metal Working, Level 6, Major Award, 240 FET Credits
- 4.6.1.3 Advanced Certificate Craft in Vehicle Body Repair, Level 6, Major Award, 240 FET Credits
- 4.6.1.4 Advanced Certificate Craft in Mechanical Automation and Maintenance Fitting, Level 6, Major Award, 240 FET Credits
- 4.6.1.5 Advanced Certificate Craft in Brick and Stone Laying, Level 6, Major Award, 240 FET Credits

The Committee noted that the credit values are nominal values and the Certificates of Validation should be referred to for further details on the matter.

#### **NOTE**

Following the meeting, the members were consulted about putting a six-month timeframe on the conditions of validation. The Committee AGREED that SOLAS has six months to satisfy all conditions of the 16 programmes that have been validated and that the six-month period begins on 19 July.

#### **4.6.2 National College of Ireland**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the validation of the following programmes for five years from 1 September 2017 subject to proposed special

conditions in the panel report and all the conditions from the 2016 validation policy listed in the proposed Certificate of Validation:

4.6.2.1 Higher Diploma in Financial Services Analytics, Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits

4.6.2.2 Higher Certificate in International Financial Services, Level 6, Major Award, 120 Credits

#### **4.6.3 Kerry Education and Training Board**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the validation of the following programme for five years from 1 September 2017 subject to proposed special conditions in the panel report and all the conditions from the 2016 validation policy listed in the proposed Certificate of Validation:

4.6.3.1 Advanced Certificate (TBC), Level 6, Major Award, 240 Credits

The Committee NOTED that the award title is to be agreed by QQI and the Provider.

#### **4.6.4 Accounting Technicians Ireland**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the validation of the following programme for three years from 1 September 2017 subject to proposed special conditions in the panel report and all the conditions from the 2016 validation policy listed in the proposed Certificate of Validation:

4.6.4.1 Advanced Certificate in Accounting Technicianship, Level 6, Major Award, 240 Credits

The Committee APPROVED the stem of the title and NOTED that the Award Title is to be agreed between QQI and the Provider.

### **4.7 Differential Validation**

#### **4.7.1 National College of Ireland**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the validation of the following programme for two years from 1 September 2017 subject to proposed special conditions in the panel report and all the conditions from the 2016 validation policy listed in the proposed Certificate of Validation:

4.7.1.1 Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Accounting and Finance, Level 8, Major Award, 240 Credits

## **5. REVALIDATION**

### **5.1 Application for Extension of Validation Period**

#### **5.1.1 National College of Ireland**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the request to extend the last intake date for the following programmes to September 2017 subject to proposed special conditions in the panel report and all the conditions from the 2016 validation policy listed in the proposed new Certificate of Validation:

- 5.1.1.1 Higher Diploma in Business in Finance, Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits  
Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Psychology, Level 8, Major Award, 180 Credits

### **5.1.2 Griffith College**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the request to extend the last intake date for the following programmes to September 2017 subject to proposed special conditions in the panel report and all the conditions from the 2016 validation policy listed in the proposed new Certificate of Validation:

- 5.1.2.1 Bachelor of Arts in Music Production, Level 8, Major Award, 210 Credits  
Certificate in Music Production for Games, Level 6, Special Purpose Award, 60 Credits  
Certificate in Advanced Taxation Planning and Advice, Level 8, Special Purpose Award, 15 Credits

### **5.1.3 College of Computing Technology**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the request to extend the last intake date for the following programmes to February 2018 subject to proposed special conditions in the panel report and all the conditions from the 2016 validation policy listed in the proposed new Certificate of Validation:

- 5.1.3.1 Bachelor of Business, Level 7, Major Award, 180 Credits

## **5.2 Application for Changes in Programme Schedules**

### **5.2.1 National College of Ireland**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the request for changes to five programmes and associated awards.

The proposed amendments were agreed at programme committee level in NCI and in accordance with NCI's internal quality assurance processes. NCI advised that although the proposed amendments will require changes to the approved programme schedules, they do not materially affect validation.

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

No Business

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

No Business

## **8. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUALITY ASSURANCE PROCEDURES BY PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED UNIVERSITIES**

No Business

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

- 9.1 The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. Two Institutes of Technology applied for extension of delegation of authority to validate research programmes at Level 9. The Institutes' registrars, on behalf of their Academic Councils, have formally confirmed that the procedures and criteria set out in the relevant Sectoral Protocols are being complied with.

The Committee APPROVED the request to extend delegated authority to include Level 9 Research Degrees to the following Institutes of Technology:

- Dundalk Institute of Technology
- Institute of Technology Tralee

**10. ROUTINE STANDARDS ACTIVITIES UPDATE**

No Business

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

No Business

**12. REPORT FROM THE PROGRAMMES AND AWARDS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (PAOC)**

No Business