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Ó OIFIG AN STIÚRTHÓRA GNÓTHAÍ ACADÚLA AGUS AN CHLÁRAITHEORA /
FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND REGISTRAR:

14th October 2015

Dr Padraig Walsh
Chief Executive
Quality & Qualifications Ireland (QQI)
26/27 Denzille Lane
Dublin 2, D02 P266

By email: consultation@qqi.ie

Re: Response of the Dublin Institute of Technology to the QQI White Paper: Review of Higher Education Institutions

Dear Dr Walsh

Thank-you for the opportunity to respond to the QQI White Paper: Review of Higher Education Institutions.

The White Paper was widely circulated throughout the Institute; in particular it was discussed at Academic Council, Academic Quality Assurance Committee and at College Boards. A separate meeting with the QQI and the Directorate Academic Affairs took place to discuss the White paper.

The paper is in line with the Institute's expectations in relation to Reviews of HEIs. The Institute welcomes that the Institute Review process will build on and be integrated with other QQI process and not duplicate other processes. The Institute agrees that Reviews should be multi-dimensional and agrees that compliance with the IEM and the implementation of procedures for access, transfer and progression should be incorporated into the Review, if feasible.

The Institute understands that the outcomes of the Review process may lead to Directions being issued by the QQI, but that the review process cannot alter the status of the QQI's approval of the Institute's Quality Assurance Procedures. The Institute awaits further discussion and information from the QQI on "for cause" reviews and what this will entail and under what circumstances the QQI may undertake a "for cause" review.

The Institute would be interested in further sectoral discussion on the development of quality indicators and benchmarks and quality enhancement themes, prior to the implementation of the Review of Institutions.

The Institute agrees that Review panels should include at least one international expert and staff and students from other Higher Education Institutions and that training should be provided for all review panel members.

Yours sincerely

Michael Mulvey PhD
Director of Academic Affairs & Registrar