

## PROGRAMMES AND AWARDS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (PAEC)

Wednesday 20 July 2016 at 9.30am and Wednesday 27 July at 10:00am  
Boardroom, 26/27 Denzille Lane, Dublin 2

Note of the nineteenth meeting of the QQI Programmes and Awards Executive Committee held in the Boardroom, 26/27 Denzille Lane, Dublin 2 on **Wednesday 20 July 2016 at 9.30am and Wednesday 27 July 2016 at 10:00am.**

### Present:

Dr Pdraig Walsh (Chairperson)  
Ms Barbara Kelly (20 July)  
Ms Angela Lambkin (20 July)  
Dr Bryan Maguire  
Ms Karena Maguire  
Dr Deirdre Stritch  
Ms Andrina Wafer  
Mr John O'Connor

### In attendance:

Ms Therese Masterson (Key Executive)  
Ms Janet Cawley (Secretary)  
Dr Peter Cullen  
Mr Walter Balfe (20 July)  
Ms Ann Graves  
Ms Sue Hackett (part of item 4.1.2b) (20 July)  
Ms Andrea Boland (item 4.5) (27 July)

## 1. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 16 June 2016

The minutes of the PAEC Meeting held on 16 June 2016 were approved by the Committee.

## 2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

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

### 3.1 Note of Meeting of 16 June 2016

The committee APPROVED the Note of the PAEC Meeting of 16 June 2016, for publication on the QQI website.

### 3.2 Report for the Board on the meeting of 16 June 2016

The Committee NOTED the Report for the Board on the PAEC Meeting of 16 June 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 circulated and the detailed verbal report presented.

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

The Executive brought the attention of the Committee to one programme - PG22353. Due to the nature of the programme, further evidence is required from the provider to verify that the provider's facilities are adequate. The Committee APPROVED the validation of the programme subject to this evidence being received by the Executive.

### FET Programme Validation Applications Refusals

The committee agreed with the recommendation to REFUSE validation of six programmes from two providers:

These decisions to refuse validation will be referred to the PAOC for confirmation or referral back to the PAEC.

#### **4.1.2a FET Programme Evaluation Reports (Positive)**

The Committee NOTED the FET Programme Evaluation Reports.

#### **4.1.2b FET Programme Evaluation Reports (Negative)**

The Committee NOTED the FET Programme Evaluation Reports.

#### **4.1.3 Maths for Stem**

The Committee NOTED the Maths for STEM validation report.

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

#### **4.2.1 IBAT College Dublin**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee determined that consideration for validation of two programmes will be held in abeyance at this time.

#### **4.2.2 HET Programme Validation Applications Refusals**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The PAEC accepted the recommendation of the Validation Panel to REFUSE validation of two programmes from a provider.

The decision to refuse validation will be referred to the PAOC for confirmation or referral back to the PAEC.

### **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 programmes for five years from September 2016:

- 4.3.1.1 *Masters in Science in Fintech*, Level 9, Major Award, 90 Credits  
*Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Fintech*, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits  
(Springboard also)
- 4.3.1.2 *Masters in Science in CyberSecurity*, Level 9, Major Award, 90 Credits  
*Postgraduate Diploma in Science in CyberSecurity*, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits
- 4.3.1.3 *Masters in Science in Marketing*, Level 9, Major Award, 90 Credits  
*Postgraduate Diploma in Business in Marketing*, Level 9, Major Award, 70 Credits
- 4.3.1.4 *Masters in Science in Non Profit Management*, Level 9, Major Award, 90 Credits  
*Postgraduate Diploma in Business in Non Profit Management*, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits
- 4.3.1.5 *Masters in Arts in Personal Leadership and Pastoral Care*, Level 9, Major Award, 90 Credits  
*Postgraduate Diploma in Arts in Personal Leadership and Pastoral Care*, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits
- 4.3.1.6 *Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Computing* Level 8, Major Award, 240 Credits (Differential)
- 4.3.1.7 *Higher Diploma in Science in Computing*, Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits (Differential)  
(Springboard)
- 4.3.1.8 *Higher Diploma in Science in Data Analytics*, Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits

- Certificate in Data Analytics, Level 8, Special Purpose Award, 60 Credits (Differential) (Springboard also)*
- 4.3.1.9 *Higher Diploma in Science in Web Technologies, Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits (Springboard also)*
- 4.3.1.10 *Higher Diploma in Science in FinTech, Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits (Springboard also)*
- 4.3.1.11 *Certificate in Computing, Level 6, Special Purpose Award, 60 Credits*
- 4.3.1.12 *Certificate in Digital Multimedia, Level 6, Special Purpose Award, 60 Credits*
- 4.3.1.13 *Certificate in Non Profit Leadership and Management, Level 9, Special Purpose Award, 15 Credits*
- 4.3.1.14 *Certificate in Social Enterprise and Entrepreneurship, Level 9, Special Purpose Award, 10 Credits*
- 4.3.1.15 *Certificate in Project Management and Implementation Science Level 9, Special Purpose Award, 10 Credits*
- 4.3.1.16 *Certificate in MIS and Social Impact Measurement, Level 9, Special Purpose Award, 10 Credits*
- 4.3.1.17 *Certificate in Professional Practice in Employability Services, Level 8, Special Purpose Award, 30 Credits*
- 4.3.1.18 *Certificate in First Line Management, Level 6, Special Purpose Award, 30 Credits*
- 4.3.1.19 *Diploma in Retail Management, Level 7, Special Purpose Award, 60 Credits*

#### 4.3.2 **Griffith College**

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

- 4.3.2.1 *Certificate in Legal Practice, Level 7, Special Purpose Award, 20 Credits*

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

No Business

#### **4.5 Springboard Approvals**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and APPROVED the validation of the following programmes under the special application process for Springboard+ 2016 for one year from 1 September 2016:

##### 4.5.1 **Dublin Business School**

- 4.5.1.1 *Certificate in Risk and Financial Analysis, Level 9, Special Purpose Award, 30 Credits*
- 4.5.1.2 *Certificate in Programming, Level 7, Special Purpose Award, 35 Credits*
- 4.5.1.3 *Diploma in Big Data for Business, Level 7, Special Purpose Award, 60 Credits*
- 4.5.1.4 *Certificate in Digital Marketing, Level 7, Special Purpose Award, 40 Credits*
- 4.5.1.5 *Certificate in Fund Accounting, Level 7, Special Purpose Award, 30 Credits*
- 4.5.1.6 *Certificate in Business Skills, Level 6, Special Purpose Award, 40 Credits*

##### 4.5.2 **College of Computing Technology**

- 4.5.2.1 *Diploma in Big Data Technology Skills, Level 7, Special Purpose Award, 60 Credits*

##### 4.5.3 **Dorset College**

- 4.5.3.1 *Diploma in Global Operations & Supply Chain Management, Level 7, 60 Credits*

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and NOTED the validation of the following programmes (already validated by QQI) under Springboard+ 2016 for one year from 1 September 2016:

##### 4.5.4 **National College of Ireland**

4.5.4.1 *Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Data Analytics*, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits

4.5.4.2 *Certificate in Digital Marketing*, Level 8, Special Purpose Award, 30 Credits

4.5.4.3 *Higher Diploma in Science in Computing*, Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits

#### 4.5.5 **Griffith College**

4.5.5.1 *Bachelor of Engineering in Industrial Engineering*, Level 7, Major Award, 60 Credits

4.5.5.2 *Higher Diploma in Science in Computing*, Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits

4.5.5.3 *Higher Diploma in Science in Web Development*, Level 8, Major Award, 90 Credits

#### 4.5.6 **Dorset College**

4.5.6.1 *Bachelor of Business (Honours) in International Business*, Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits

### 4.6 **Initial Validation**

No Business

## 5. REVALIDATION

### 5.1 **Gaelchultúr Teoranta**

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

5.1.1 *Postgraduate Diploma in Arts in Translation*, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits

### 5.2 **Griffith College**

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

5.2.1 *Diploma in Legal Studies and Practice*, Level 7, Special Purpose Award, 60 Credits

### 5.3 **International School of Business**

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

5.3.1 *Certificate in Sales and Management*, Level 6 Special Purpose Award, 30 Credits  
*Certificate in Business for International Learners*, Level 6, Special Purpose Award, 30 Credits  
*Certificate in Digital Marketing and Media*, Level 6, Special Purpose Award, 30 Credits  
*Certificate in Applied Tourism Marketing and Event Management*, Level 6, Special Purpose Award, 30 Credits

### 5.4 **The American College Dublin**

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

5.4.1 *Masters of Business in International Business*, Level 9, Major Award, 90 Credits  
*BA (Honours) in International Business*, Level 8, Major Award, 180 Credits  
*BA (Honours) in Liberal Arts*, Level 8, Major Award, 180 Credits

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

#### 5.5.1 **Carlow College**

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

*Bachelor of Arts in Humanities, Level 7, Major Award, 180 Credits*  
*Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Humanities, Level 8, Major Award, 240 Credits*  
*Certificate in Advocacy Skills, Level 6, Minor Award, 40 Credits*  
*Higher Certificate in Arts in Citizenship and Community Studies, Level 6, Major Award, 120 Credits*  
*Bachelor of Arts in Citizenship and Community Studies, Level 7, Major Award, 180 Credits*  
*Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Citizenship and Community Studies, Level 8, Major Award, 240 Credits*  
*Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in English and History, Level 8, Major Award, 240 Credits*  
*Bachelor of Arts in Applied Social Studies in Social Care, Level 7, Major Award, 180 Credits*  
*Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Applied Social Studies in Social Care, Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits*  
*Master of Arts in Therapeutic Child Care, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits*

#### 5.5.2 IBAT College Dublin

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee decided that the request to have the enrolment period extended on the following programmes will not be granted as the rationale proposed is insufficient, there are discrepancies in learner data, and most significantly, because of the very poor learner progression and completion rates:

*Bachelor of Business, Level 7, Major Award, 180 Credits*  
*Higher Certificate in Business, Major Award – Level 6, 120 Credits (Exit Award)*  
*Certificate in Business, Minor Award – Level 6, 60 Credits*

#### 5.5.3 IPTAS

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and APPROVED the revalidation of the following programme for one year from September 2016:

*Bachelor of Science in Applied Health Science, Level 7, Major Award, 180 Credits*

#### 5.5.4 The Open Training College

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

*Certificate in the Management of a Positive Behavioural Culture, Level 7, Special Purpose Award, 20 Credits*  
*Certificate in Supported Employment, Level 7, Special Purpose Award, 20 Credits*  
*Certificate in Teaching Strategies for People with Disabilities, Level 7, Special Purpose Award, 20 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

No Business

### 9. ROUTINE STANDARDS ACTIVITIES UPDATE

No Business

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

No Business

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

No Business

**12. PROGRAMME VALIDATION GUIDELINES FOR PROVIDERS**

- 12.1 The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated– draft guidelines on preparing applications for validation, guidelines on programmatic review (HET) and preparing applications for revalidation and the verbal report presented. The Committee requested that the final drafts of the guidelines be brought back to this Committee when available.

**13. PAEC Strategy**

- 13.1 The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated - Report for PAOC on the strategic direction of the activities governed by the PAEC and the verbal report presented.

The Committee noted that the Programmes and Awards Oversight Committee recently requested from the Executive a briefing document on the Strategic Direction of the PAEC. The paper outlines a strategic direction for communication to the PAOC for recommendations. It sets out the strategy for programme validation. The strategy for the other PAEC functions will be addressed in due course.