Feedback to QQI on

Sector Specific Quality Assurance guidelines – Statutory QA guidelines developed by QQI for Education and Training Boards

Submitted by: Louise Clarke

Director of Quality Assurance

Cavan and Monaghan Education and Training Board
Introduction

Cavan and Monaghan Education and Training Board (CMETB) has engaged extensively in the consultation process put in place by QQI towards the development of QA guidelines for the FET sector. Considerable time and resources were invested by CMETB in submitting feedback to QQI on policy documents and in partaking in a feasibility study around draft QA guidelines for the FET sector in 2015.

CMETB considers that all ETB’s will need to establish a dedicated QA unit to respond to all QQI QA related guidelines, whatever their format, and welcomes the opportunity to do this.

The document under consideration at this time were circulated to CMETB’s FET Management team for deliberation in December 2016 and a meeting of this group was convened in January 2017 to elicit feedback on the documents. This feedback is provided below:

1. In relation to Section 4 – Programmes of Education and Training (page 7) “arrangements with these awarding bodies must be formally documented and QQI must be notified before each such arrangement is entered into.” It would be of use to provide clarification on what form this notification might take and whether approval will be required from QQI following notification of such arrangements by an ETB.

2. In relation to Section 5 – Learner Records and Certification (page 9) it is specified that ETB’s will be required to secure learner records and certification details indefinitely. Further clarification should be provided in relation to the specific records/depth of detail that is required to be held indefinitely by an ETB as this is not clear in the document.

3. In section 6.2 – ETB’s Collaborating with other providers, partners and other awarding bodies (page 10) “Procedures established by ETBs will ensure that collaborative arrangements with other providers and partners are approved...”. As per the feedback provided in 1 above, clarification should be provided around the approval process that ETB’s will be required to undergo at this point.