MEETING REPORT

CONSULTATIVE FORUM

1 APRIL 2014

MEETING REPORT

Background

The first meeting of QQI's Consultative Forum was held on 1 April 2014 in the Alexander Hotel, Dublin. A total of 46 delegates from a wide range of stakeholder organisations, representatives from the QQI Board and QQI executive attended the Forum. See Appendix 1 for a List of Attendees and Appendix 2 for the Agenda.

The terms of reference, stakeholder nominee organisations to the Forum, and meeting documentation is published on QQI's website. Mr Gordon Clark, Chair of the QQI Board opened the meeting and welcomed delegates to the Forum. Dr Padraig Walsh, CEO of QQI and Chair to the Forum provided an overview of the purpose and context for the Forum, within QQI's strategic commitment, which is to collaborate with stakeholders to ensure greater coherence in the education and training system.

Following presentations by QQI, the Forum delegates discussed specific questions related to the operation of the Forum itself and to the Green and White Papers presented. The outcomes of this workshop were then discussed with a QQI panel.

Emerging Themes

*The **common or key themes** emerging from the Forum discussion are;*

1) Building on the Consultative Forum it was widely suggested that QQI should establish *sub-forums or working groups* with potentially an overall *Steering Group* linked to the Consultative Forum.

2) A *thematic focus* should be adopted for the Forum; themes could be identified through the sub-forums/working groups and through the forum members.

3) *Communications* was raised as a consistent theme from groups, on a number of levels. It was identified that there is a need for QQI;

   a) to communicate and promote its role widely;

   b) to communicate and promote Quality Assurance in education and training;

   c) to communicate more frequently with all stakeholders, ensuring targeted communication to specific stakeholder groups;

   d) to provide updated and regular communication through newsletters and possibly social media.

4) Related to theme 3 above, *'jargon laden'* was identified consistently as an issue; QQI policy papers and communications are jargon heavy.

The following is a summary of the feedback and outcomes of the group discussion.

2.2 Topic: The Consultative Forum

The delegates were asked;

1) What topics do you feel the Consultative Forum could usefully look at over its next few meetings?

2) How do you think topics for the Forum should be identified?

The following is a summary of the feedback;

» The establishment of the Consultative Forum was welcomed by stakeholders and was considered to be a very positive development "*this type of Forum is very positive*".

» Further clarity on QQI's work plan would assist Forum members, *"if we knew in advance it would allow us to consult with constituent groups".*

» A number of groups suggested the establishment of focussed stakeholder sub- groups; one group suggested the establishment of a *Steering Group* to oversee the Forum.

» Members suggested that there is a need to raise the awareness and profile of the Forum and its membership. It was suggested that QQI could invite feedback through consultation directly from the forum members, and provide an opportunity for members to consult with their constituents.

» It was suggested that social media could be used as a mechanism to communicate more widely.

» Forum members should receive papers in advance with sufficient time to consult their constituents and provide feedback through discussion at the Forum

» All groups suggested a thematic approach to topics for the Forum. It was suggested that a matrix of sectorial themes could be looked at by the Forum. There were a number of suggestions on how themes could be identified, including through Forum members, focus groups/working groups and/or a steering group.
" Members should be able to propose topics; could use Forum members to liaise with their broader sector to identify topics"

A number of topics for consideration were suggested at the meeting and are summarised below.

» International Students

» Grade Inflation

» Industry/Employer Engagement

» Work Based Education and Learning

» Recognition of Industry Qualifications/Vendor Awards

» IEM and Accreditation of English Language Schools

» Assessment and Alignment

» Learner Progression from Further Education to Higher Education

» Programme Validation Process

~ Duration, nature and cost of the process,

~ Support in translating QQI criteriaCo-ordination between State agencies in their separate but linked relationships with providers, and transparency of decision making processes

» Review Roll-Out and Implementation of QQI Policy

» How To Achieve Balance Between Different Stakeholder Interest Groups

» Occupational Standards, National Responsibility and Development

» Ensuring Public Confidence In The Awards System

Additional Comments

» Use the 'Snapshot' diagram as a model to communicate and let people know what is going on

» Concern about impact on not-for-profit sector and fees

» Concern about administrative burden of QA on teachers and learners

» Current statistical reports – Could QBS reports be brought in line with SOLAS?

2.2 Topic 2: Green Paper on Facilitating Learner Recognition

The delegates were asked:-

1) As the NFQ is further implemented nationally, how should QQI coordinate and communicate information on use of the NFQ and awards recognised within the NFQ to different stakeholder groups to prioritise the needs of learners?

2) This Green Paper is very broad in terms of scope. How should QQI best approach consultation on this paper to ensure that engagement reflects the wide diversity of stakeholder groups?

The following is a summary of the feedback:-

» It was suggested that the policy development programme 'Snapshot Diagram' be used as a model to communicate this Green Paper and the recognition process.

» Delegates felt that within this document and QQI documentation in general, there is a tendency for documents to be jargon heavy. While this may be obvious for those that are in the business, it can be very difficult for others and particularly learners.

» Within the context of this paper, do stakeholders know who they are? Not everyone knows they are stakeholders. A very open discussion is needed by those impacted.

» There is a need to speak to the relevant stakeholders and those impacted by this policy; there should be direct dialogue with learners and employers.

» QQI can use existing networks to consult on this policy such as the Irish Council for International Students

» There is a need for more coordination with all providers on what the NFQ means

» In terms of the database of programmes and awards – *"QQI is very jargon heavy"*

2.3 Topic 3: White Paper on Re-engagement with Legacy Providers

The delegates were asked:

1) How should QQI engage with providers and other key stakeholders in communicating the approach? Can you be specific with suggestions?

2) In developing and scheduling the implementation plan for this policy, what factors does QQI need to consider?

The following is a summary of the feedback

» It was suggested that *champions* could be identified amongst the Consultative Forum to act as a conduit for communication.

» QQI needs to *'up the anti'* about the importance of this information. The legislation needs to be presented from the perspective of the provider – what does this mean for them? Importance for providers.

» Language and jargon needs to be looked at, both in the paper and in communicating this approach.

» QQI should engage with communities of practice.

» Consider it from a provider's perspective, what is in it for providers?

» It is accepted that rationalisation of quality models will be needed; previous model will need to be rationalised, people will need to know what is different. It was suggested that a gap analysis should be conducted for the FET sector - What will be the same? What is different?

» QQI will need to consider the political fall out.

» One suggestion is to conduct a risk assessment process to identify providers based on their relationship

» Diverse groups within different sectors must be recognised. One size does not fit all. The whole model will not fall apart.

» QQI should not get bogged down in legacy issues; It needs to consider the impact that QQI has on learners as that is what we are all about.

» Consider the capacity of QQI with respect to Implementation and this needs to be communicated to stakeholders

Outcomes of Forum Panel Discussion

The following is a summary of the additional comments and feedback through the open forum panel discussion:-

» QQI needs to match the Policy Development Programme and Consultation process to when people can consult.

» One delegate expressed a frustration with the consultation process and external communication by QQI, - *"you don't see any acknowledgement of the comments you made"*, and there is a *"focus on internal communications, not talking, meeting with stakeholders on a one-to-one basis".* Concern was expressed that QQI changes policy without consultation.

» It was suggested that stakeholders need to be kept updated on the Policy Development Programme and QQI work plan.

» Concern among the not-for-profit sector regarding provision and fees.

» The administrative burden of QA is a concern– paper exercise. Teaching being impacted negatively due to the level of administration required.

» QBS for further education – statistical reports need to be brought into line with DES and SOLAS.

» Concern was raised with regards to the timelines associated with the validation process; this is impacting in particular on the private sector and is causing a massive problem. It means the sector is not responsive, and the process is lacking in transparency.

» *"There is a growing perception the QQI is developing a HE bias". "Who ensures parity of esteem – have a matrix of central concerns?"*

» QQI needs to raise the profile of quality assurance in education and training with the general public. There is a lot of good work and practice in the system, and this should be shared.

» It is important that QQI maintains an international profile, at national level; this international profile is very important, i.e. the international aspect of the Framework.

» There are predominantly domestic stakeholders on the consultative forum. QQI needs to maintain an international dimension. *"Maybe we could let stakeholders in Ireland know what is happening in Europe"*

The following is a summary response from the QQI Chair and Panel

» The level of discussion at the Forum was acknowledged as very positive.

» It was confirmed that QQI's website is being reviewed and that focus groups will be established for this.

» QQI is currently reviewing existing QA models and will be putting out an option paper in the coming months.

» QQI is committed to updating the Policy Snapshot, and letting people know at quarterly intervals what is happening in policy.

» It was confirmed that submissions and analysis of QQI consultation processes are all published. QQI has dialogue with stakeholders and has endeavoured to go out with many individual stakeholder groups, but 'could do a better job on this'.

» The communications issues were acknowledged by the panel. The messages may not be getting back, and Forums should as this can assist.

» QQI confirmed that it does not develop or amend policies without consultation. Operational procedures may be adjusted from time to time without formal consultation.

» The difficulty in timings on consultation was acknowledged. It is difficult to identify a best time. QQI acknowledged that it is frequently told that May is a terrible time, as is June, July and August. This significantly narrows the consultation window and presents a challenge for progressing policy.

» It was acknowledged that domestic stakeholders have been the focus to date. QQI has a range of international engagement. It is the NARIC contact point for the qualifications framework, QQI's CEO is currently the president of ENQA and hosts the EQAVET secretariat. QQI continues to build on legacy work including the Bologna Framework and the Dublin Descriptors. QQI is informing international policy in a range of areas. There is an issue perhaps though in communicating to stakeholders in Ireland and letting them know what QQI is doing. QQI confirmed that it is currently building a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with its international counterparts.

Next Steps

QQI is currently reviewing the recommendations and outcomes from the Forum discussion and will revert back to the Forum members directly with follow up actions and proposals.

Survey Results

A follow up survey was conducted with attendees to elicit feedback on the arrangements for the meeting. The following is a summary report of the results of this survey.

Feedback on QQI's Consultative Forum 1st April 2014

Q1 The room and the venue were conducive to discussion.

Answered: 16   Skipped: 0
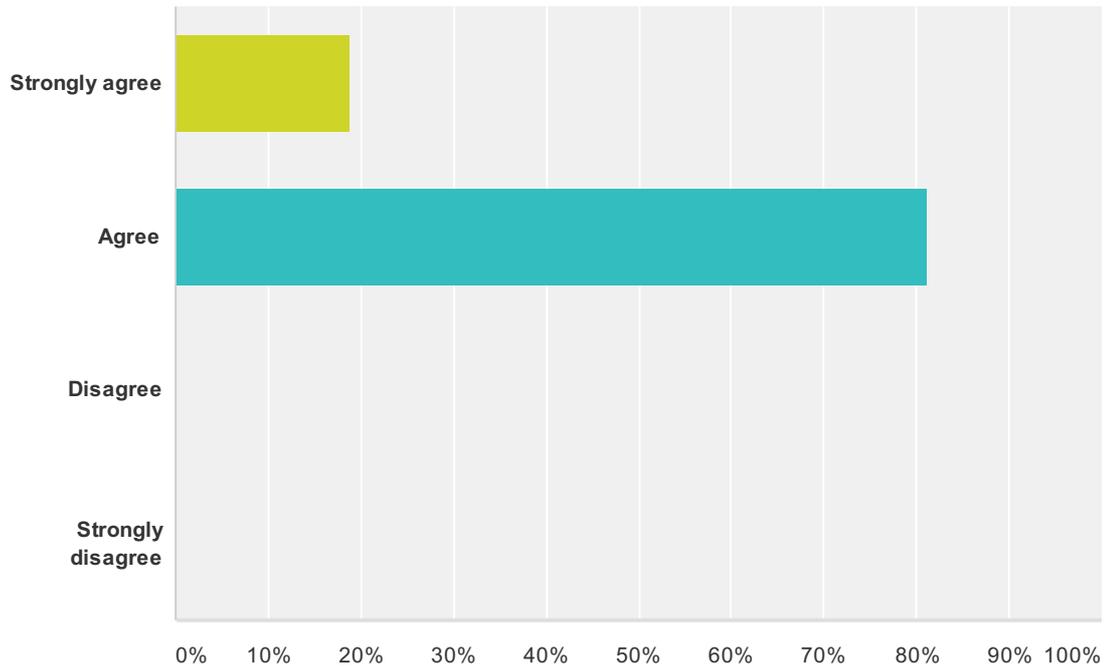
Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly agree	**18.75%**	3
Agree	**81.25%**	13
Disagree	**0.00%**	0
Strongly disagree	**0.00%**	0
Total Respondents: 16		

#	Additional comments	Date
1	suggest slightly larger room	4/14/2014 2:07 AM
2	Air conditioning was cold and agressive	4/11/2014 1:48 AM
3	Not too big a room meant you could hear all speakers on the floor	4/11/2014 1:43 AM
4	Ok for a hotel, the education sector has more suitable venues for workshop events	4/7/2014 1:11 PM
5	Table teams great idea. Facilitator was excellent.	4/7/2014 6:28 AM
6	Had those schedulted to attend the tables would have been a little cramped.	4/7/2014 6:08 AM

Q2 The documentation was clear and accessible

Answered: 16   Skipped: 0
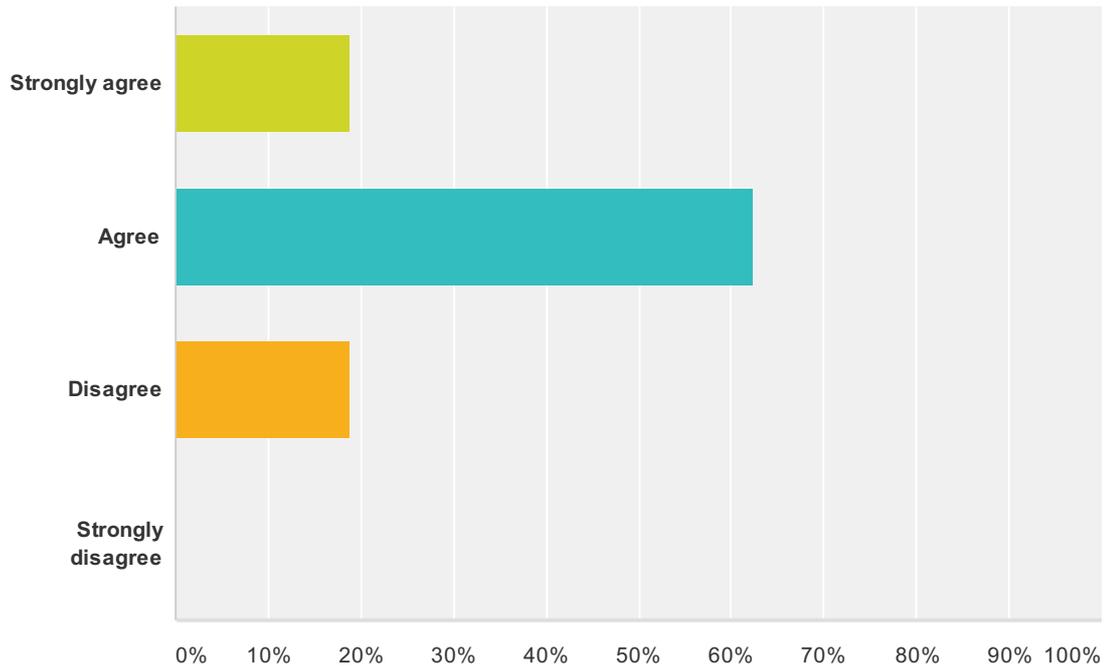
Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly agree	**18.75%**	3
Agree	**62.50%**	10
Disagree	**18.75%**	3
Strongly disagree	**0.00%**	0
Total Respondents: 16		

#	Additional comments	Date
1	hand outs should have been issued in advanced of forum	4/14/2014 2:07 AM
2	Would like to have received TOR and discussion questions in advance. Lots of reading material, difficult to read it all.	4/11/2014 8:22 AM
3	There was an inconsistency so some information documents were clearer than others.	4/11/2014 2:32 AM
4	The documentation is quite repetitive	4/11/2014 1:43 AM
5	User frendly	4/7/2014 1:11 PM
6	Papers lacked some salient details in respect of numbers involved, timescales and impact of status quo on operations	4/7/2014 7:47 AM
7	Documentation was clear but voluminous. Would need more time to digest in future.	4/7/2014 6:56 AM

Q3 Did you find the plenary presentations helpful and informative?

Answered: 16   Skipped: 0
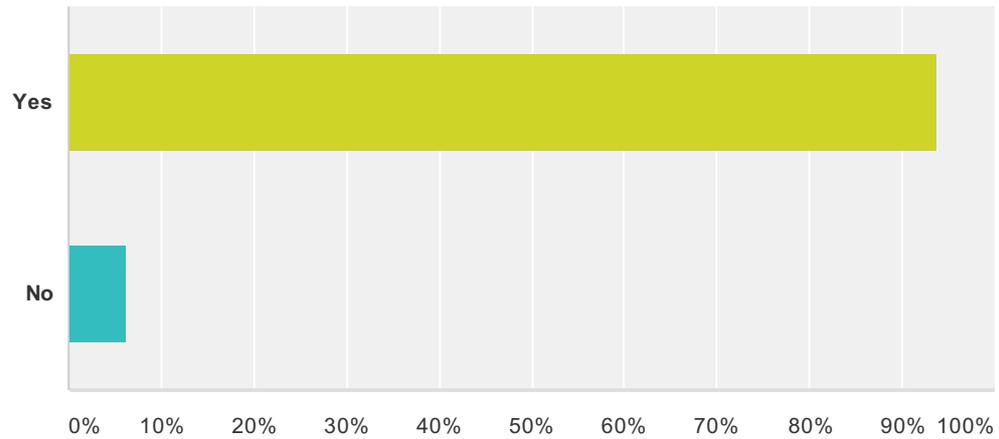
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	**93.75%**	15
No	**6.25%**	1
Total Respondents: 16		

#	Additional comments - please specify which sessions were of most interest	Date
1	but duplication of message	4/14/2014 2:07 AM
2	Session on re-engagement with legacy providers was of most interest	4/11/2014 8:22 AM
3	Speakers were succinct and intelligible	4/11/2014 1:48 AM
4	Not sure that the presentations added anything to the documents, some presentations needed more preparation	4/11/2014 1:43 AM
5	Most of the information was circulated prior to meeting should of focused on what next, the process and consultation	4/7/2014 1:11 PM
6	Very clear and helpful overview.	4/7/2014 6:28 AM
7	It would be useful to receive soft copies of the speaker notes	4/7/2014 6:08 AM
8	These sessions were good but impinged on the time allowed for the table discussions	4/7/2014 5:44 AM

Q4 The topics raised in the plenary presentations were relevant

Answered: 16   Skipped: 0
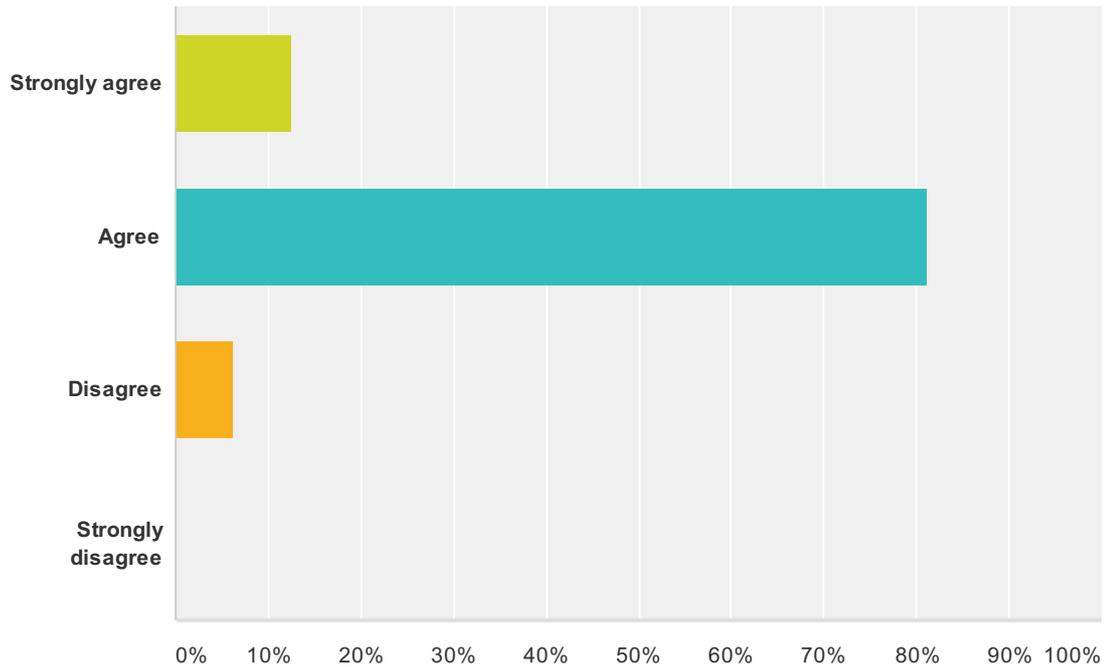
Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly agree	**12.50%**	2
Agree	**81.25%**	13
Disagree	**6.25%**	1
Strongly disagree	**0.00%**	0
Total Respondents: 16		

#	Additional Comments	Date
1	but too broad - need to narrow focus	4/14/2014 2:07 AM
2	Although the issues raised in the plenary sessions were information, they were unrelated to the questions for discussion by the tables. I understand the format of the first Forum was different to what is intended in future though.	4/7/2014 6:56 AM

Q5 The discussion groups were informative and provided an opportunity to discuss the key issues raised within the Papers

Answered: 16   Skipped: 0
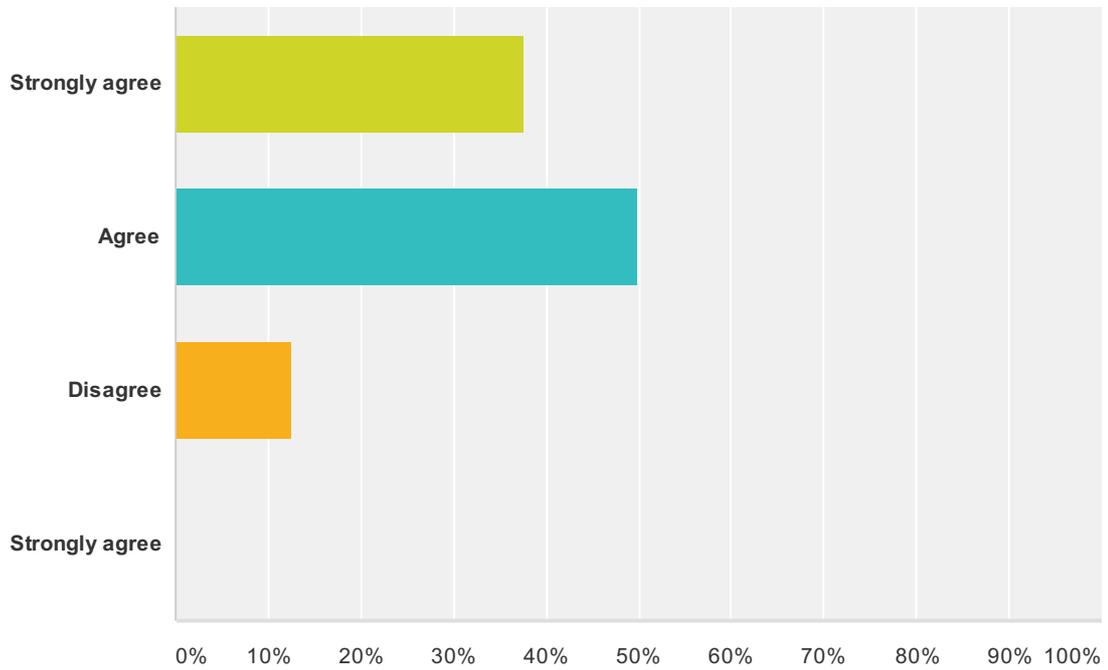
Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly agree	**37.50%**	6
Agree	**50.00%**	8
Disagree	**12.50%**	2
Strongly agree	**0.00%**	0
Total Respondents: 16		

#	Additional comments	Date
1	too short timeframe to establish meaningful dialogue	4/14/2014 2:07 AM
2	A good format, however issues were very broad making it difficult to reach consensus	4/11/2014 8:22 AM
3	Some of the feedback was not on the topic being discussed.	4/11/2014 2:32 AM
4	Good to see and hear other stakeholder concerns	4/11/2014 1:43 AM
5	Did not focus on the agenda, the feedback drifted outside of the discussion	4/7/2014 1:11 PM
6	See above	4/7/2014 6:56 AM

Q6 Can you identify three things that the Consultative Forum did well?

Answered: 16   Skipped: 0

Answer Choices	Responses	
1	100.00%	16
2	93.75%	15
3	50.00%	8

#	1	Date
1	Board members attendance at each table	4/14/2014 2:07 AM
2	Presentations were clear, to the point and accessible	4/11/2014 8:22 AM
3	tables conducive for discussion	4/11/2014 2:32 AM
4	Brought everybody together for first time	4/11/2014 1:48 AM
5	Good venue	4/11/2014 1:43 AM
6	brought a disparate, but relevant, group together	4/11/2014 1:30 AM
7	Good choice of venue	4/8/2014 3:24 AM
8	started a process	4/7/2014 1:11 PM
9	Stimulated inter-action across communities which work in a common area but with diverse agendas and allowed an insight into divevergent objectives.	4/7/2014 7:47 AM
10	It was well organized.	4/7/2014 7:03 AM
11	Good for stakeholders to engage with those from other sectors and with other perspectives.	4/7/2014 6:56 AM
12	Table team format	4/7/2014 6:28 AM
13	Engaged the participants	4/7/2014 6:08 AM
14	Good interaction	4/7/2014 5:44 AM
15	bring together a broad range of stakeholders	4/7/2014 5:22 AM
16	Informative	4/7/2014 5:18 AM

#	2	Date
1	Food	4/14/2014 2:07 AM
2	Discussion was well facilitated	4/11/2014 8:22 AM
3	presentations short and informative	4/11/2014 2:32 AM
4	Demonstrated the very wide range of stakeholders	4/11/2014 1:48 AM
5	Getting all stakeholders together	4/11/2014 1:43 AM
6	identified some key issues	4/11/2014 1:30 AM
7	Speakers were informative	4/8/2014 3:24 AM
8	provided detailed documents	4/7/2014 1:11 PM
9	Gave an opportunity for misconceptions to be addressed.	4/7/2014 7:47 AM
10	Time-keeping was excellent.	4/7/2014 7:03 AM
11	Short update from QQI staff	4/7/2014 6:28 AM
12	Ran to time	4/7/2014 6:08 AM
13	Plenty of topics for further discussion raised	4/7/2014 5:44 AM
14	highlight some of the forthcoming QQI policy developments	4/7/2014 5:22 AM

15	Grouping of stakeholders	4/7/2014 5:18 AM
#	3	Date
1	asking people to read beforehand	4/11/2014 2:32 AM
2	Showed committment and passion from participants.	4/11/2014 1:48 AM
3	Having an open dialogue	4/11/2014 1:43 AM
4	created a relevant platform for discussion	4/11/2014 1:30 AM
5	introduced the topics	4/7/2014 1:11 PM
6	Generated networking opportunities	4/7/2014 7:47 AM
7	QQI's governance g structure was well presented.	4/7/2014 7:03 AM
8	Facilitated session	4/7/2014 6:28 AM

15	Grouping of stakeholders	4/7/2014 5:18 AM
#	3	Date
1	asking people to read beforehand	4/11/2014 2:32 AM
2	Showed committment and passion from participants.	4/11/2014 1:48 AM
3	Having an open dialogue	4/11/2014 1:43 AM
4	created a relevant platform for discussion	4/11/2014 1:30 AM

Q7 Can you identify three things that could be improved upon?

Answered: 16   Skipped: 0

Answer Choices	Responses	
1.	100.00%	16
2.	62.50%	10
3.	25.00%	4

#	1.	Date
1	suggest feedback to focused questions in advance of future meetings and present in advance of future forum	4/14/2014 2:07 AM
2	Questions for discussion could be sent out ahead of time	4/11/2014 8:22 AM
3	less money needs to spent on the priting of documents that have a short shelf life	4/11/2014 2:32 AM
4	Not let the number attanding get bigger/unwieldy	4/11/2014 1:48 AM
5	Presentations should be more informative, giving background	4/11/2014 1:43 AM
6	personally I dont like the feedback sessions ...... they always seem to be a waste of time ..... we ran similar where individuals had to report after if they wanted to add anything to the discussion ... very little was added	4/11/2014 1:30 AM
7	More time allowed for discussion	4/8/2014 3:24 AM
8	the process needs to be discussed	4/7/2014 1:11 PM
9	N/a	4/7/2014 7:47 AM
10	The facilitator should not patronise contributors by complimenting them incessantly about the quality of their contributions.	4/7/2014 7:03 AM
11	Time to read and think about issues in advance	4/7/2014 6:56 AM
12	Update from stakeholders at next meeting.	4/7/2014 6:28 AM
13	Give more advance notice	4/7/2014 6:08 AM
14	More time allowed for discussions	4/7/2014 5:44 AM
15	identify the main challenges facing QQI	4/7/2014 5:22 AM
16	More feedback in advance to allow for better use of group time	4/7/2014 5:18 AM
#	2.	Date
1	Narrow your focus on specific key areas	4/14/2014 2:07 AM
2	Representatives grouped thematically eg private providers/ 3rd level together and focus the discussion	4/11/2014 8:22 AM
3	adoption of Plain English approach	4/11/2014 2:32 AM
4	Not let same speakers from the floor blabber on.	4/11/2014 1:48 AM
5	QQI should make a statement of intent in these areas to guide discussions	4/11/2014 1:43 AM
6	place names not necessary	4/7/2014 1:11 PM
7	Give clear advise on what must be read in advance	4/7/2014 6:08 AM
8	Make plenary sessions shorter	4/7/2014 5:44 AM
9	identify the main challenges facing the development of a coherent and cohesive system of education and training	4/7/2014 5:22 AM
10	Too many people with too many varying opinions	4/7/2014 5:18 AM
#	3.	Date

Feedback on QQI's Consultative Forum 1st April 2014

1	be specific on questions	4/14/2014 2:07 AM
2	need to inject a bit of energy and passion	4/11/2014 2:32 AM
3	did not set targets	4/7/2014 1:11 PM
4	need to remain at high level of discussion, not descend into details	4/7/2014 5:22 AM

Feedback on QQI's Consultative Forum 1st April 2014

Q8 What key topics would you like to see addressed in the forum in future?

Answered: 16   Skipped: 0

#	Responses	Date
1	concerns re. grading levels at 3rd level	4/14/2014 2:07 AM
2	Clear guidelines and discussion on the schedule of fees - including if there will be a fee for reengagement with legacy providers. Support and guidelines with the re-engagement process.	4/11/2014 8:22 AM
3	ensuring quality and confidence in the quality of awards	4/11/2014 2:32 AM
4	Within ELT sector would like to see discussion on Foundation Programmes linking ELT and third level institutions.	4/11/2014 1:48 AM
5	QQI plans for international recognition, testing of protection for learner policies, inclusion of external awarded qualifications onto NFQ	4/11/2014 1:43 AM
6	duplication of activity organisational boundaries QQI/SOLAS/DES	4/11/2014 1:30 AM
7	A walk through of the end-to-end process of revalidation. The value of maintenance of QQI validation in international education environment - what does alignment on the NFQ mean for overseas stakeholder?	4/8/2014 3:24 AM
8	Recognition regulation common standards monitoring training	4/7/2014 1:11 PM
9	Cross border including UK & European qualification issues.	4/7/2014 7:47 AM
10	Digital learning: assessment challenges	4/7/2014 7:03 AM
11	How the burden on providers can be minimised, without undermining quality assurance. How to reduce the time taken to complete processes (e.g. even when all documentation is received, validation decisions can take 20+ weeks).	4/7/2014 6:56 AM
12	Feedback from discussions with interested groups such as employers.	4/7/2014 6:28 AM
13	Alignment processes for professional qualifications	4/7/2014 6:08 AM
14	Topics that were raised on the day as key- e.g Validation Issues	4/7/2014 5:44 AM
15	QQI's role in developing a coherent and cohesive system of education and training in Ireland	4/7/2014 5:22 AM
16	Recognition of Qualifications for overseas students, structures for legacy providers & timelines	4/7/2014 5:18 AM

Feedback on QQI's Consultative Forum 1st April 2014

Q9 Thank you for filling out this survey. Please insert any additional feedback in the comment box below.

Answered: 8   Skipped: 8

#	Responses	Date
1	Would welcome more information or a report on the key themes emerging from the consultation process on the papers, and how QQI will respond to them.	4/11/2014 8:22 AM
2	thank you	4/11/2014 2:32 AM
3	Thank you. You are all doing a very good job, and it is appreciated.	4/11/2014 1:48 AM
4	Despite the lack of time for discussion, the forum managed to collate a lot of ideas. The 'whistle stop' feedback worked well in maintaining focus however there were a number of topics that would have been good to explore further had more time been available.	4/8/2014 3:24 AM
5	Sectorial specific issues could be discussed in small specialist groups.	4/7/2014 1:11 PM
6	The broad scope of QQI's remit makes it difficult for the Consultative Forum to go beyond fairly superficial treatment of topics. There might be merit in having more sector-specific sessions, with only an occasional 'all things to all people' event.	4/7/2014 7:03 AM
7	Very good start.	4/7/2014 6:28 AM
8	It was a well organised event and I look forward to the next meeting	4/7/2014 5:44 AM

QQI is reviewing the feedback from the Consultative Forum. Following this review, follow up actions will be identified and communicated to members.

Appendix 1: Attendees

Trina Cowie	ACCA
Dr Martin Gormley	Adult Education Officers Association
Niamh Farren	AONTAS
Séan Murphy	Chambers Ireland
Maria Murphy	Chartered Accountants Ireland
Professor Michael A. Hayes	CHoICE
Shane Balzan	CIMA
Philip Sheridan	City and Guilds
Phil O'Flaherty	Department of Education and Skills (Further Education)
Hugh Geoghegan	Department of Education and Skills (Higher Education)
John McGuigan	Department of Employment and Learning Northern Ireland (Higher Education)
Dr Michael Mulvey	Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT)
Evan Buckley	Education and Training Boards Ireland
Damien Owens	Engineers Ireland
Niall O'Donnellan	Enterprise Ireland
Tony Donovan	HCCI
Fergal Costello	Higher Education Authority
Ian McKenna	Higher Education Colleges Association
Elizabeth Tynan	Institute of Guidance Counsellors
Dr Jim Murray	Institutes of Technology Ireland
Jenny Hayes	Irish Business and Employers' Confederation (IBEC)
Kevin Geoghegan	Irish Council for International Students
Harry Walsh	Irish Course Providers Association
Paul Heaney	Irish Interprofessional Association
Judith Foley	Irish Nursing Board
Lewis Purser	Irish Universities Association
David O'Grady	Marketing English in Ireland

Inez Bailey	National Adult Literacy Association
Rory O'Sullivan	National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals
Donal Rice	National Disability Authority
Attracta Halpin	National University of Ireland
Nick Kho	NEBOSH
Eddie Connor	Pearson
Professor David Croke	Royal College of Surgeons
Catherine Collins	Skillnets
Fiona Hartley	SOLAS
Aidan Kenny	Teachers Union of Ireland (TUI)
Dr Padraig Walsh	CEO, QQI
Mr Gordon Clark	Chair, QQI Board
Karena Maguire	Head of Quality Assurance Services, QQI
Bryan Maguire	Head of Qualifications Services, QQI
Trish O'Brien	Head of Provider Relations, QQI
Barbara Kelly	Head of Industry and External Partnerships, QQI
Colette Harrison	Provider Recognition, QQI
Marie Gould	Provider Relations, QQI
Mary Sheridan	Provider Relations, QQI
Deirdre Stritch	Provider Relations, QQI
Niamh Lenehan	Qualifications Recognition, QQI
Orla Lynch	Quality Review and Enhancement, QQI
Dr Ann Louise Gilligan	QQI, Board Member
Joanne Harmon	QQI, Board Member
Mary Danagher	QQI, Board Member
Una Buckley	QQI, Board Member

Appendix 2: Agenda

10.30	**Registration**
11.00	**Welcome Address** Mr Gordon Clark, QQI Chair
	Outline of the Meeting Dr Padraig Walsh, CEO QQI – Forum Chair
	The Consultative Forum in Context Trish O'Brien, Head of Provider Relations
11.15	**The Qualifications System** Bryan Maguire, Head of Qualifications Services
	Green Paper on Facilitating the Recognition of Qualifications Niamh Lenehan, Manager Qualifications Recognition
	QQI Award Brand **Policy Development Programme Update** **Current White Papers for Consultation** Dr Padraig Walsh, CEO QQI
	Quality Assurance **White Papers on Re-Engagement with Legacy Providers** Orla Lynch, Manager Quality Review and Enhancement
12.00	**Table Discussions**
12.30	**Open Discussion with QQI Panel**
1.00	**Lunch**