





Inaugural Review Action Plan Longford and Westmeath Education and Training Board

February 2023

Part 1: Dissemination of Review Report Findings

Longford and Westmeath Education and Training Board has welcomed each phase of the QQI Inaugural Review and the subsequent Review Report. The independent review team on the institutional review of quality assurance was held in April of 2022 and the LWETB QQI Review Report was published in October of 2022. The report was distributed to the LWETB Board, the CE, FET Management Team, FET Director, Schools & Youth Director, OSD Director, QOG, QGG, PGG and the Self-Evaluation Steering Group (SESG) to review and distribute to all staff. The report was reviewed in detail and open for comment and feedback. The Review Report is available to all staff, learners and stakeholders via the LWETB website.

LWETB will also disseminate the Review Report via the following communication Pathways:

- Social media posts released to Twitter, Facebook and Instagram December 2022
- Release of the Review Report via the LWETB Quality Newsletter Q4 2022 (Released January 2023)
- Release of the Review Report via the LWETB Guidance Service Newsletter **December 2022**
- Release of the Review Report via link to Review Report to LWETB Website **December 2022**
- Release of the LWETB Inaugural Review Action Plan via the LWETB Quality Newsletter Q2 2023
- Release of the LWETB Inaugural Review Action Plan via the LWETB Guidance Service Newsletter March 2023
- Release of the LWETB Inaugural Review Action Plan via link to LWETB Website March 2023
- Release of the LWETB Inaugural Review Action Plan via the LWETB e-Newsletter May 2023

When formulating the LWETB Action Plan, the SESG, FET Management Team, QGG and PGG has discussed and informed the LWETB Action Plan to ensure a well-informed and effective action plan is developed in consideration of the recommendations made of the review panel. Operational, programming and development support is provided through the FET Management Team and QOG. The planned actions and planned completion dates identified within the LWETB Action Plan will be discussed and reviewed on an ongoing basis through the FET Management Team, QOG, QGG, PGG and FETQS Unit to continually inform and monitor the agreed actions in response to the Review Panels recommendations. The thirteen recommendations were combined where applicable and will be addressed by common actions as outlined.





	Recommendation ¹	Commentary ²	Plann	ed Actions ³	Planned
					Completion Date ⁴
The	me: Governance and Management of	f Quality			
1	The review team recommends the	FETQS have established many FET policies,	i.	QSI: Continuation of the Quality System Index	FETQS & QOG:
	establishment of a plan and timeline of integration for merging	procedures and QA documentation that align to the QQI 11 Core Guidelines and supersede		to outline strategy of cohesion and merging of one QA system to that of the FETQS plan to	Ongoing
	of 1 QA system to include goals and	legacy QA processes and historical systems and		merge inclusive of policy. Procedure and QA	
	objectives to be communicated to	this work will continue to progress. FETQS have		system documentation objectives. The QSI will	
	learners, staff and stakeholders	also developed a robust, clear and documented		hold a plan of action, QA systems in review,	
	(internal and external). Plan is to	approach to the alignment of the core		review dates and future goal aspiration	
	include progress being made.	guidelines of the Quality System Index (QSI)		timelines.	000 00 0000 (4 st
	Responsibility: OSD, QOG, FETQS	that outlines all QA documentation, review dates and document structure that meet the	ii.	Intranet: Use of the LWETB Intranet to disseminate QA plans, objectives, review and	OSD: Q3 2023 (1 st Phase
		needs of FET and 1 QA system.		consultation under review for all internal and	implementation)
		QQI Core Guidelines Adherence in all 11		external stakeholder engagement	implementation,
		sections for QA system integration	iii.	Communications Strategy: Implementation	OSD: Q4 2023 (1 st
		LWETB will focus on the delivery of a 'one'		and dissemination of internal and external	Phase
		approach to QA systems and deliver a		stakeholder engagement	Implementation)
		staggered approach to implementation and			
2	The review recommends more	adherence. LWETB have a strong governance	i.	Employer Representation: Recruitment of	PGG: Q1 2023
Z	diverse representation within QA	LWETB have a strong governance representation of 2 overarching QA	1.	Enterprise Engagement Representative on	PGG. QI 2025
	and wider governance structures,	governance groups of the PGG and QGG		governance group PGG to represent employer	
	for example: learner voice,	governed and overseen by the QOG and		voice and engagement	
	employers. Ensure representation	chaired by the FET Director to ensure oversight,	ii.	Employer Representation: LWETB	OSD & QOG: Q2
	is valued and used effectively with	compliance and a documented approach to QA		representative voice on external boards. STB	2023
	clear strategic direction	is not only adhered to but met with strategic		Management and FET Director representation	
	Responsibility: HR, QOG, FETQS	plans, deadlines. LWETB acknowledges the		to engage current and future FET needs.	
		recommendation of stronger learner and		Ongoing engagement and where applicable	

¹ A number of recommendations may be combined where they are addressed by a common action.

² Provide an overview of the ETB's plans to address the recommendation.

³ Add or remove rows as appropriate.

⁴ This should be no later than 5 years following the publication of the review report.





	Recommendation ¹	Commentary ²	Planned Actions ³	3	Planned
					Completion Date ⁴
12	The review team recommends that	employer voice representation and this will be	presentati	on to external boards and invitation	
	LWETB use the experience gained	explored with support from NALA on engaging	to interna	I QOG meetings to identify future	
	through the SER process to	learner voice representation as well as our	training ne	eds and future opportunities	
	continue to strengthen	Enterprise Engagement Coordinator for and on	iii. Learner Vo	vice: Development of a Learner Voice	PGG: Q2 2024
	engagement with external	behalf of employers to successfully carry out	Working G	iroup (WG) in accordance to LWETB	
	stakeholders to further enhance	their duties of representation as required.	WG ToR to	develop Learner Voice MS Form for	
	the capacity to identify emerging	QQI Core Guidelines Adherence:	all learner	engagement on a bi-yearly basis	
	needs to develop services/systems	1. Governance & Management of Quality	iv. Learner \	/oice: Development of thematic	PGG Q3 2023
	to address.	2. Programmes of Education & Training	learner fac	e to face session in conjunction with	
	Responsibility: SLT, FET	3. Staff Recruitment, Management &	AONTAS		
	Management	Development	v. Learner Vo	bice: Exploration in the development	PGG Q2 2025
		4. Public Information & Communications	of a hub f	or Learner Forum to coincide with	
		5. Information and Data Management	LWETB Co	llege of a Future	
		6. Other parties involved in Education and		utilising the SEED system to track	PGG Q3 2024
		Training		nitor relationships in employer	
		7. Self-Evaluation, Monitoring & Review		nt to utilise towards strategic	
		LWETB support the recommendation to	direction o	of FET programmes. STB to develop	
		strengthen engagement with external	sectoral w	orkshops to engage with regional	
		stakeholders in the implementation of actions	sectors, es	stablish sectoral needs and develop	
		and progression plans put in place to enhance	compatible	e programmes to suit the FET needs	
		this engagement post SER.			





Recommendation ¹	Commentary ²	Planned Actions ³ Planned
		Completion Date ⁴
		of Longford and Westmeath including linking in with Midlands Regional Skills Forum vi. Data Driven: LWETB FET Management will utilise date derived from PLSS as the stepping stone to strengthen SARS applications for the establishment of FET Colleges of the Future to the contribution of the Estates Strategy.
		 vii. Data Driven: The FET Management Team will review research that is available to meet the requirements as outlined and meeting the requirements of the LWETB Strategic Performance Agreement to address KPIs identified. viii. Data Driven: Inclusion of SOLAS to update on bulletins, population and industry Ongoing
		requirements to cross compare CSO data to conduct TNAs for programme development through the PGG.
		 ix. QA Culture: Develop a QA Induction Guidelines and Presentation for all new and existing LWETB staff internal and externa to LWETB. This will embed, strengthen and enhance a QA culture. The QA Culture Presentation and Induction will strengthen the profile across all stakeholder groups to encourage diversity in representation across governance. QA Culture: Publication and implementation of QA culture branding communication with 'call to action' application for QA governance groupings will be included yearly in the FETQS Quality Newsletter.





	Recommendation ¹	ion ¹ Commentary ² Planned Actions ³ F		Planned	
					Completion Date ⁴
			ii. iii.	Networking: Establishment of the LWETB Regional ALO to engage with employers and stakeholders within Longford and Westmeath. Establishment and ongoing engagement by the LWETB Enterprise Engagement Officer within SME as well as multi-national representation of employer engagement within Longford and Westmeath. Ongoing engagement and relation building with STB and Training Advisor staff and employers. FETQS meeting existing and potential future second providers and providing informational sessions on QA engagement. Centre level staff engaging with local authorities and Department of Social Protection in formal and informal sessions. Interdepartmental Information Sessions: Planning, establishment and implementation of formal events with QOG oversight of departmental presentations with Q&A engagement sessions for all FET Management and SLT with LWETB Board of Directors 'Who	FET Management Ongoing FET Management Ongoing
The	me: Documented Approach to Qualit	v Assurance		We Are in LWETB'.	
3	The review team recommends a clear communication strategy which will loop across SLT, governance, management structures including feedback from and to staff, stakeholders and learner voice. Inform all stakeholders of aims, progress,	LWETB will develop a range of policies, supports and resource portals to support communication methodologies in a systematic and informational way as to develop a branded visibility of FET in LWETB. QQI Core Guidelines Adherence: 1. Teaching and Learning	i. ii.	QMP: The online Quality Management Portal (QMP) will be a web-based portal for all staff and stakeholders to act as the connection point for all live and static QA material, QA system, programme requests, material access and a full QA informational portal hub with training, resources and supports and live updates. AMS: The Assessment Management System	PGG Q2 2024 FET Management
	how feedback is received and	a b		(AMS) will sit into and in addition and tandem	Q3 2023





Recommendation ¹	Commentary ²	Planned Actions ³	Planned
			Completion Date ⁴
Recommendation ¹ impact on strategic planning and enhancements of QA Responsibility: FETQS, SLT, QOG, MIS, FET Management	 Commentary² Public Information and Communication Other parties involved in Education and Training 	 to the QMP to support the dissemination of AIS materials and FE Module Descriptor distribution on a secure platform for ease of accessibility to all required stakeholders with privilege level access. iii. QMP: The QMP will act as a feedback structure informing impact of strategic planning of QA enhancements which will span across SLT, governance structures and staff including the QSI, live update sections, training material and supports readily available to all centres across LWETB. This will be overseen by the QGG iv. Communication: Usage of bulletin emails systems to promote QMP, direct stakeholder traffic to a one fit-for-purpose QA hub, distribute supports, training opportunities and actions to the QMP to promote inclusion and consultation opportunities v. Educator Handbook: FETQS to develop, consult 	Completion Date ⁴ PGG Q2 2024 FETQS Ongoing
		 upon, produce and promote an Educator Handbook to serve as a guide, support, one stop resource location and communication methodology for quality standards for all staff and stakeholders. Updated, overseen and reviewed periodically by FETQS via the QGG vi. Communication: FETQS continuation of representation across ETB networks to communicate best practice initiatives (QA Network, EA Working Group, RPL Network etc) vii. Website Communication: LWETB to develop a FET learner website to act as a learner communication platform to support, 	FET Management: Ongoing FET Management: Q3 2024





	Recommendation ¹	Commentary ²	Plann	ed Actions ³	Planned Completion Date ⁴
				contribute and disseminate learner and public information. This web-based platform will align with all the LWETB social media plan with a dedicated focus on FET marketing, branding and social media promotion and knowledge sharing outlets. This will streamline public consumption information and allow the delivery on key actions as identified through te SER and QQI Review Report to support planned actions, outcomes and planning strategy.	
The	me: Programmes of Education and Ti	aining	1	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
6	The review team recommends the development of a Programme Delivery, Development and Validation Policy and subsequent procedures and appendices to ensure this strategic focus is in line with QQI guidelines.	quality, fit-for-purpose programmes that meet the national standards and todays industry requirements. Two key policies are therefore required to support these processes and are highlighted as priority areas:	i. 	Policy & Procedure Development: FETQS Programme Development to commence the drafting of a Programme Delivery, Development and Validation Policy, procedure and required documentation to support the application, review, oversight and governance approval processes required	2024
	Theme : Programme Development Responsibility : QOG, PGG, FETQS	 Programme Delivery. Development and Review Policy, Procedure and documentation Self-Evaluation, Monitoring and Review 	ii.	Training and Supports: TEL to support Blended Learning opportunities, integration and UDL for enhancement of TLA	2024
		Policy, Procedure and documentation QQI Core Guidelines Adherence: 1. Governance and Management of Quality	iii.	Module Enhancement: FETQS to commence a data-gathering plan for collation of modules for review and development.	FETQS via PGG: Q4 2023
		 Coventinee and Management of Quarty Documented approach to QA Programmes of Education & Training Staff recruitment, management and development 	iv.	ETB Collaboration: Engage and collaborate with other ETBs in the review of existing programmes and the development of new programmes	Ongoing
		 Teaching and Learning Assessment of Learners Supports for Learners Self-evaluation, monitoring & review 	v.	Networking and collaboration: FETQS to work closely with the ETBI Quality Network to continue to develop the CAS Programme Development Initiative	Ongoing





	Recommendation ¹	Commentary ²	Planr	red Actions ³	Planned
The	me: Teaching and Learning				Completion Date ⁴
4	The review team recommend a sharing of best practice through CoPs and staff integration across FET to include teaching and support staff (incl. contracted training providers) to enhance a 'one LWETB' approach. Responsibility : TEL PL&D, Adult	 PL&D intends to form CoPs for UDL and TEL to commence CoPs to support educators in commencing best practice models to support and develop plans for educators to implement best practice models. The LWETB CoPs will facilitate change and development to support a culture of peer learning with emphasis on provision-based CoPs. Support (through TEL initiatives) teaching and instructing staff to design consistent ways of assessment via e-enabled assessment informed by best practice from covid-19 adaptions. This initiative is to support the commencement of a culture where individuals engaged in professional learning and development (PL&D) further share their learning with their peers in a more formal platform QQI Core Guidelines Adherence: Programmes of Education & Training Staff recruitment, management & Development Teaching and Learning Assessment of Learners Other Parties involved in Education & Training Self-Evaluation, Monitoring & Review 	i. ii. iv. v. vi. vii.	Communities of Practice: Development of a PGG CoP Working Group to collate educator database per field of learning to commence dedicated CoP groupings CoP: TEL and PL&D to initiate two CoP models of UDL and EdTech to initiate the educator involvement in a CoP to capture and enhance peer to peer collaboration, learning and support to develop the competencies required in the quality improvement works undertaken Procedure: FETQS to develop a CoP procedure with appending documentation to support QA CoP Pilot: FETQS pilot a model of CoP through module enhancement-based emphasis CoP Champions: Development CoP champions within centres and LWETB to facilitate change and support a culture of peer learning and support in the engagement of CoPs CoP: Integration of Literacy championing literacy across levels 1-6. Working towards a Integrating Literacy Policy CoP: Commencement of an ESOL level 3.	FETQS & TEL via PGG: Ongoing FETQS & TEL via PGG: Ongoing FETQS via QGG: Q3 2023 FETQS via PGG: Q3 2023 FETQS & TEL via PGG: Q3 2024 ALO: Q2 2024 ALO: Q2 2024 Adult Literacy Department Heads: Q3 2023





	Recommendation ¹	Commentary ²	Plann	ed Actions ³	Planned
					Completion Date ⁴
Then	me: Supports for Learners				
9	The review team recommends the development of an across all service learner induction process and also a learner handbook to span across all FET provisions with the same information and supports that are available to any learner with where and how to access. Responsibility : FETQS, Open Consultation, SLT, FET Management, FET Coordinators	 Delivery of a comprehensive suite of supports, information, guidance and access to learner policies and procedures is a key priority for FETQS. Work has commenced on the following: Learner Handbook Learner Induction Presentation Learner Induction Checklist Educators will also be encouraged to participate in a QA induction Process. FETQS to develop a QA Induction Training Plan to enhance awareness around the impact of QA and the importance of a quality culture. This ensures that all staff and stakeholders are fully aware of governance, policies, and processes to ensure a continued consistency in QA and knowledge building this process. Clear communication, branding, advertisement, briefings and promotion for learners of the Learner Handbook across all provisions and levels, both internally and externally. QQI Core Guidelines Adherence: Documented Approach to QA Programmes of Education & Training Teaching and Learning Assessment of Learners Supports for Learners Information & Data Management Public Information, Monitoring and Review 	i. ii.	Learner Handbook: FETQS through open stakeholder consultation to develop, consulted upon and published a learner handbook for all learners across all provisions within LWETB Learner Induction: FETQS through open stakeholder consultation to develop a learner induction presentation with checklist. Assurance of all FET learners receiving the same integral introduction to LWETB mission and values, their learning journey, programme and centre with checklist for a documented approach to programme initiation QA internal and external training: FETQS to develop a QA Induction Training Programme for existing, new staff and stakeholders that is pre-recorded and readily available to all on QMP.	FETQS via PGG: Q3 2023 FETQS via PGG: Q3 2023 FETQS via QGG: Q4 2023





	Recommendation ¹	Commentary ²	Plann	ed Actions ³	Planned
T 1					Completion Date ⁴
	me: Information and Data Managem				
5	The review team recommends the	LWETB will deliver a coherent plan for the	i.	PL&D: Continue to deliver and advertise CPD	PL&D via FET
	development of systems to	delivery of CPD opportunities in the following		and training opportunities through the PL&D	Management:
	measure the impact of CPD to drive	keys areas that will be tracked, planned,		TEL Wakelet, MS Teams, LWETB QA Newsletter	Ongoing
	QA and develop how CPD is	implemented and reported in line with CPD		and briefings	
	prioritised	Plan, under the following key headings:	ii.	Training Material: Easy to access pre-recorded	FETQS via QGG:
	Responsibility: FET Management,	- FETQS		video recordings to detail specific section of	Ongoing
	PD Coordinator	- TEL		the Educator Handbook and the inclusion of	
		- Learner Handbook		this for all new educator staff internal and	
		- Educator Handbook		external	
		- Learner Induction	iii.	Networking: Continue to liaise with PL&D	FETQS via FET
		- Health & Safety		network to nationally develop a system to record PL&D	Management: Ongoing
		The AEO with responsibility for CPD will assist	iv.	Engagement: Establish a PL&D Working Group	PL&D via FET
		in the research of staff and stakeholder needs		with ToR to research ways to evaluate and plan	Management:
		to engage in CPD training		PL&D	Ongoing
		QQI Core Guidelines Adherence:	٧.	Development: Continuation of developing	PL&D via FET
		1. Governance & Management of QA		PL&D workplans with collaboration and	Management:
		2. Staff Recruitment, Management &		through consultation from middle and senior	Ongoing
		Development		management teams prioritising areas as per	
		3. Teaching and Learning		the LWETB Strategy Statement and National	
		4. Assessment of Learners		PL&D strategy.	
		5. Other parties involved in Education &			
		Training			
7		6. Self-Evaluation, Monitoring & Review			
7	The review team recommends the	The FET Guidance Service has a robust	i.	Review the database and who is accessing the	Guidance via FET
	development of mechanisms for	monitoring system in place to date. This		service – Adult Education Guidance Service	Management: Q2
	monitoring the guidance service.	consists of our national Adult Guidance		Management system is the database and	2023
	Namely; Who is accessing the	Management System which records all our		Guidance staff and AEO can access it. ETBI	
	service, who is not engaging and so	clients and groups and categorises people on		currently have ownership of this database.	Guidance via FET
	ensure a consistent service is	socio economic backgrounds, educational	ii.	Review existing data and critically analyse the	Management: Q4
	available across all LWETB centres	backgrounds, age, progression, locality and		groups/people guidance is not reaching –	2023









	Recommendation ¹	Commentary ²	Plann	ed Actions ³	Planned
					Completion Date ⁴
		QQI Core Guidelines Adherence:			
		1. Governance and Management of Quality			
		2. Documented Approach to QA			
		3. Programmes of Education & Training			
		4. Teaching and Learning			
		5. Teaching and Learning			
		6. Assessment of Learners			
		7. Supports for Learners			
		8. Information & Data Management			
		9. Public Information & Communication			
		10. Self-Evaluation, monitoring and review			
8	The review team recommends the	LWETB to continue to develop and enhance our	i.	KPI: PLSS system allows for identified KPI	MIS via FET
	development of data collation	communications strategies to support the		targets to be monitored with additional	Management:
	mechanisms for the systematic	effective promotion of FET services at		dashboards provided by SOLAS allowing for	Ongoing
	collection of data and its use. This	organisation and centre level. e.g. improve the		further analysis. Utilising and sharing of this	
	data will be used to review and	consistency of industry links across the FET		data on PGG governance group to feedback	
	evaluate provision and used for	provision, increase learner voice participation		data loop to inform programme needs.	
	performance management	at centre and LWETB level, develop systematic		Inclusion of above notation that SOLAS to	
	indicators. This data is to be used	learner, staff and external stakeholders		receive an invitation to FET Management	
	to enhance operational and	feedback structures and organise information		Sessions to update of programme TNA.	
	strategic planning to enable a more	events for key external stakeholders	ii.	PLSS: Utilising the PLSS text system to send	MIS via FET
	consistent FET experience across	QQI Core Guidelines Adherence:		learner surveys and questionnaires including	Management:
	LWETB.	11. Governance and Management of Quality		AONTAS invitations for face to face thematic	Ongoing
	The data mechanism and system	12. Documented Approach to QA		focus sessions	
	can be used to develop KPIs and	13. Programmes of Education & Training	iii.	QMP Development and tender process of the	
	plans to develop and align to clear	14. Teaching and Learning		QMP to keep internal and external	2023
	targets while measuring to ensure	15. Information & Data Management		stakeholders up to date on all QA with	
	a self-evaluated continuance in	16. Public Information & Communication		interaction capability	
	enhancements needed and made	17. Self-Evaluation, monitoring & review			
	Responsibility: MIS, FET				
	Management, FETQS				





	Planned Actions ³	Planned
		Completion Date ⁴
 The review team recommends mechanisms for embedding the learner voice across all relevant activities and governance. A clear and accountable process ensures feedback informs strategy and accountability. This needs to be supported by a coherent and consistent feedback loop in acknowledging learner voice is heard and actioned. Responsibility: MIS, FET Management The learner is at the core of all that LWETB do in terms of service and provision of teaching learning and assessment. As a result of the review panel findings LWETB will develop a public information and communication strategy, in conjunction with mechanisms to deliver a consistent approach to gathering and analysing learner feedback across all levels and consistent feedback loop in acknowledging learner voice is heard and actioned. Responsibility: MIS, FET Management QQI Core Guideline Adherence: Documented approach to QA Programmes of Education & Training Supports for Learners Information & Data Management Self-Evaluation, Monitoring & Review 	 support provision planning, operational delivery and reporting requirements creating a looped engagement process for all stakeholders v. Learner Engagement and Voice: Augmenting the learner voice through Learner Surveys, AONTAS thematic sessions, PLSS engagement portal and learner forums through the establishment of an LWETB College of the Future vi. Employer and External Stakeholder 	Ongoing FET Management: Q3 2023

Theme: Self-Evaluation, Wohltoring & Review





	Recommendation ¹	Commentary ²	Planned Actions ³	Planned
				Completion Date ⁴
11	The review team recommends the introduction of a continuous and system self-monitoring and evaluation to support organisational learning. This is to be supported by data – standards, targets and indicators – as well as benchmarking and the systematic	performance indicators (KPIs) which will be monitored on an ongoing basis including the agreement of our strategic performance agreements. QQI Core Guidelines Adherence in all 11	 Plan: Development of the Annual Service Plan led by FET Director to deliver on Strategic Goals and as such KPI outcomes identified and actioned through the 2023 Service Plan Support Services Document SER: Utilising the future focus areas identified through this process to review and plan outstanding QIP areas. Actions identified will 	FET Management: Q4 2023 FET Management via QOG: Ongoing
	collection of feedback from learners, staff and stakeholders. Responsibility : MIS, FET Management, Governance, FETQS		be risk assessed to establish prioritisation iii. Policy Development: Develop a Self-Evaluation and Monitoring Policy based on all FET monitoring and evaluation activities to support future provision planning and development	via QGG: Q3 2025
			iv. System Management: Explore QA measurement systems with project management software	FET Management: Q3 2025