

Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann

Quality and Qualifications Ireland

APPROVALS AND REVIEWS COMMITTEE

Notes of the 42nd meeting of the QQI Approvals and Reviews Committee, held **on Thursday the 19th of September at 11am online via Microsoft Teams.**

Participation:

Dr Sean Duignan (Chair)
Professor Fiona Farr
Ms Carol Hanney
Dr Anna Murphy
Mr Ronan O'Loughlin
Ms Laura Flynn

In attendance:

Ms Elaine Gannon (secretary)
Ms Alex Keys
Ms Yvonne Agnew
Ms Orlaith O'Loughlin

Apologies:

Mr Tony Pettit
Mr Gerry O'Sullivan
Mr Bryan O'Mahony

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Committee approved the agenda for the meeting. There were no conflicts of interest in relation to any of the items of business before the Committee.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 28 March 2024

The Committee approved the Minutes of the ARC meeting held on the 28th of March 2024.

3. NOTES OF THE MEETING OF 28 MARCH 2024

The Committee approved the Notes of the ARC meeting held on 28th of March 2024 which will be published on the QQI website.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Chair informed the committee that under AOB at the 28th of March 2024 ARC meeting, the International Education Mark (IEM) was raised. It was confirmed that legislation has now been enacted and applications for the first application window are currently open for English Language Education and Higher Education providers. The next ARC meeting will include a briefing on the IEM.

5. PROVIDER ACCESS TO INITIAL VALIDATION – EDUCATION AND TRAINING TRUST GLG

Alex Keys and Yvonne Agnew joined the meeting to present item 5.

5.1 Approval of Draft Quality Assurance Procedures – Education and Training Services Trust CLG

The Committee noted the recommendation of the QQI executive based on the recommendation of the Quality and Capacity Evaluation Panel report. Following discussion, the Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI executive to approve with conditions, the application from Education and Training Services Trust CLG.

6. CINNTE CYCLICAL REVIEW – Munster Technological University (MTU)

Orlaith O'Loughlin joined the meeting to present items 6 and 7

6.1 Approval to Publish the Report of Munster Technological University (MTU)

The Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI Executive to publish the final report and institutional response for the cyclical review of Munster Technological University (MTU).

7. CINNTE CYCLICAL REVIEW – Technological University of the Shannon (TUS).

7.1 Approval to Publish the Report of Technological University of the Shannon (TUS).

The Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI Executive to publish the final report and institutional response for the cyclical review of Technological University of the Shannon (TUS).

8. ANNUAL SELF-ASSESSMENT EVALUATION OF THE PERFORMANCE OF QQI COMMITTEES -ARC REPORT 2023

The Committee noted the Self-Assessment Report for 2023. The Chair acknowledged the mainly positive comments. However, it was noted by committee members that given the smaller number of attendees at the meeting, that if individual members had an issue that they wish to raise they could do so at the next meeting and members will be notified of this opportunity.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A discussion was held on recent media coverage about concern of a decline in Irish third level education due to resourcing constraints.

This concluded the business of the meeting.