

Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann

Quality and Qualifications Ireland

APPROVALS AND REVIEWS COMMITTEE

Notes of the 48th meeting of the QQI Approvals and Reviews Committee, held **on Wednesday 19th of November 2025 online via Microsoft Teams.**

Participation:

Dr Sean Duignan (Chair)
Mr Ronan O'Loughlin
Prof Fiona Farr
Ms Carol Hanney
Dr Anna Murphy
Prof Maria Hinfelaar
Mr Tony Pettit
Dr Rory O'Sullivan

In attendance:

Ms Karla Keogan (Acting secretary)
Ms Mary Grennan
Ms Jennifer Osborne
Ms Lisa Melody

Apologies:

Mr Gerry O'Sullivan, Ms Laura Flynn and Dr Elaine Boyd

1: APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Committee approved the agenda for the meeting. Ms Carol Hanney and Dr Rory O'Sullivan declared a conflict of interest for item 6 - Dublin City University, Prof Maria Hinfelaar declared a conflict of interest for item 11- South East Technological University and Prof Fiona Farr declared a conflict of interest for item 14 - University of Limerick. They agreed to excuse themselves from these items.

2: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 11TH OF NOVEMBER 2025

The Committee approved the minutes of the ARC meeting held on the 11th of November 2025.

3: NOTES OF THE MEETING OF 11TH OF NOVEMBER 2025

The Committee approved the notes of the ARC meeting held on the 11th of November 2025 which will be published on the QQI website.

4: MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

5: TRUSTED IRELAND (HE PATHWAY) APPLICANT: CCT COLLEGE DUBLIN

Mary Grennan, Jennifer Osborne and Lisa Melody joined the meeting to discuss items 5 to 15.

The committee discussed the need for a process to monitor time bound conditions and recommendations. Mary confirmed a process will be developed for the monitoring of time bound and non-time bound conditions and recommendations. The committee also highlighted the importance of consistency and assigning appropriate timelines for conditions and recommendations across all TrustEd application reports. The committee commended the QQI executive on the moderation process and the internal audit applied by QQI during the assessment stage.

5.1 Approval to authorise CCT College Dublin to use the TrustEd Ireland mark (HE Pathway) with conditions.

The Approvals and Reviews Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI executive to approve to authorise CCT College Dublin to use the TrustEd Ireland mark with conditions and recommendation, and to publish the assessment report and provider response.

The approval was granted by the committee on the assurance that there will be follow-up action from the QQI executive for monitoring conditions and recommendations. Mary to return to the committee to provide an interim update on the monitoring process.

6: TRUSTED IRELAND (HE PATHWAY) APPLICANT: DUBLIN CITY UNIVERSITY

Ms Carol Hanney and Dr Rory O'Sullivan excused themselves for item 6.

6.1 Approval to authorise Dublin City University to use the TrustEd Ireland mark (HE Pathway) with conditions.

The Approvals and Reviews Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI executive to approve Dublin City University to authorise to use the TrustEd Ireland mark with conditions, recommendations and commendations, and to publish the assessment report and provider response.

7: TRUSTED IRELAND (HE PATHWAY) APPLICANT: DORSET COLLEGE

7.1 Approval to authorise Dorset College to use the TrustEd Ireland mark (HE Pathway) with conditions.

Mary noted that Dorset College will also apply for ELE pathway assessment in window two.

The Approvals and Reviews Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI executive to approve to authorise Dorset College to use the TrustEd Ireland mark with conditions and recommendation and to publish the assessment report and provider response.

The committee expressed its eagerness to ensure that QQI will actively monitor all conditions associated with the approval to ensure they are implemented before the deadline. The committee requested oversight of the process.

Mary confirmed that for HE pathway applicants the committee will be notified of the outcome of the due diligence process post authorisation. For ELE pathway applicants the committee will be notified of the outcome of the due diligence process as the same time as the application reports.

Tony left the meeting due to a prior commitment.

8: TRUSTED IRELAND (HE PATHWAY) APPLICANT: INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE DUBLIN (ICD) BUSINESS SCHOOL

8.1 Approval to authorise International College Dublin (ICD) Business School to use the TrustEd Ireland mark (HE Pathway) with conditions.

The Approvals and Reviews Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI executive to approve to authorise International College Dublin (ICD) Business School to use the TrustEd Ireland mark with conditions, recommendations and commendation, and to publish the assessment report and provider response.

The committee suggested that panel Recommendation 1 (5.1.2 (d), 5.1.2 (e) and 5.1.2 (h)) should be referred to in Condition 1 (5.1.2 (f) and 5.1.2 (h)) and Condition 2 (5.1.2 (d) and 5.1.2 (e)) to ensure the link between the conditions and recommendation is clearly presented.

9: TRUSTED IRELAND (HE PATHWAY) APPLICANT: MUNSTER TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

9.1 Approval to authorise Munster Technological University to use the TrustEd Ireland mark (HE Pathway) with conditions.

The Approvals and Reviews Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI executive to approve to authorise Munster Technological University to use the TrustEd Ireland mark with conditions, recommendations and commendations, and to publish the assessment report and provider response.

10: TRUSTED IRELAND (HE PATHWAY) APPLICANT: ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY OF MUSIC (RIAM)

10.1 Approval to authorise Royal Irish Academy of Music (RIAM) to use the TrustEd Ireland mark (HE Pathway) with conditions.

The Approvals and Reviews Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI executive to approve to authorise Royal Irish Academy of Music (RIAM) to use the TrustEd Ireland mark with conditions, recommendations, and to publish the assessment report and provider response.

11: TRUSTED IRELAND (HE PATHWAY) APPLICANT: SOUTH EAST TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

Prof Maria Hinfelaar was excused for item 11.

11.1 Approval to authorise South East Technological University to use the TrustEd Ireland mark (HE Pathway).

The Approvals and Reviews Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI executive to approve to authorise South East Technological University to use the TrustEd Ireland mark with recommendations and commendations, and to publish the assessment report and provider response.

12: TRUSTED IRELAND (HE PATHWAY) APPLICANT: TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY OF THE SHANNON

12.1 Approval to authorise Technological University of the Shannon to use the TrustEd Ireland mark (HE Pathway).

The Approvals and Reviews Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI executive to approve to authorise Technological University of the Shannon to use the TrustEd Ireland mark with recommendations and commendations, and to publish the assessment report and provider response.

13: TRUSTED IRELAND (HE PATHWAY) APPLICANT: UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

13.1 Approval to authorise University College Dublin to use the TrustEd Ireland mark (HE Pathway).

The Approvals and Reviews Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI executive to approve to authorise University College Dublin to use the TrustEd Ireland mark with recommendations and commendations, and to publish the assessment report and provider response.

14: TRUSTED IRELAND (HE PATHWAY) APPLICANT: UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK

Prof Fiona Farr was excused for item 14.

14.1 Approval to authorise University of Limerick to use the TrustEd Ireland mark (HE Pathway) with condition.

The Approvals and Reviews Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI executive to approve to authorise University of Limerick to use the TrustEd Ireland mark with condition, recommendations and commendations, and to publish the Assessment Report.

15: TRUSTED IRELAND (HE PATHWAY) APPLICANT: UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY

15.1 Approval to authorise University of Galway to use the TrustEd Ireland mark (HE Pathway) with condition.

The Approvals and Reviews Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI executive to approve to authorise University of Galway to use the TrustEd Ireland mark with condition, recommendations and commendations, and to publish the assessment report and provider response.

10: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mary confirmed that the official announcement of the approvals will take place in January 2026. The next ARC meetings are scheduled for the 2nd, 12th and 15th December 2025. The committee agreed to continue with the current process for reviewing the TrustEd applications. Committee members can continue to email comments or observations for inclusion in the QDocs folder. The Chair thanked all members for the time given to the Approvals and Reviews Committee during this busy time.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Chair: _____

Date: _____