

Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann

Quality and Qualifications Ireland

APPROVALS AND REVIEWS COMMITTEE

Notes of the 50th meeting of the QQI Approvals and Reviews Committee, held **on Tuesday 15th of December 2025 online via Microsoft Teams.**

Participation:

Dr Sean Duignan (Chair)
Prof Fiona Farr (Vice Chair)
Ms Laura Flynn
Mr Ronan O'Loughlin
Mr Gerry O'Sullivan
Ms Carol Hanney
Dr Rory O'Sullivan
Dr Elaine Boyd

In attendance:

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

Apologies:

Dr Anna Murphy, Mr Tony Pettit and Prof Maria Hinfelaar.

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 2ND OF DECEMBER 2025

The Committee approved the minutes of the ARC meeting held on the 2nd of December 2025.

3: NOTES OF THE MEETING OF 2ND OF DECEMBER 2025

The Committee approved the notes of the ARC meeting held on the 2nd of December 2025 which will be published on the QQI website.

4: MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The chair provided a brief update on the focused review of SOLAS following a recent QQI Board meeting. A quality improvement plan has been established and QQI are engaging with SOLAS and HEA to oversee the initiation and progress of the quality improvement measures.

5: TRUSTED IRELAND (HE PATHWAY) APPLICANT: TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY DUBLIN

Mary Grennan, Jennifer Osborne and Lisa Melody joined the meeting to discuss items 5, 6 and 7.

5.1 Approval to authorise Technological University 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 Technological University Dublin to use the TrustEd Ireland mark with conditions, recommendations and commendations and to publish the assessment report and provider response.

6: TRUSTED IRELAND (HE PATHWAY) APPLICANT: HOLMES INSTITUTE DUBLIN

6.1 Approval to authorise Holmes Institute 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 Holmes Institute Dublin to use the TrustEd Ireland mark with recommendations and commendation, and to publish the assessment report and provider response.

Mary noted that Holmes Education Group also operates another organisation Oxford House College which will be applying through the ELE pathway.

7: TRUSTED IRELAND (HE PATHWAY) APPLICANT: RCSI, UNIVERSITY OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES

7.1 Approval to authorise RCSI, University of Medicine and Health Sciences to use the TrustEd Ireland mark (HE Pathway).

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

The committee made several overall observations regarding the TrustEd applications and the process. The committee praised the TrustEd team for advancing the application process to a mature stage and for the high quality of documentation presented to the Approvals and Reviews Committee. Mary reported that the TrustEd team will deliver an ELE overview session for the Approvals and Reviews Committee prior to the next ARC meeting. The Approvals and Reviews Committee is set to review submissions for ELE applications in March. The decision on the HE application will be officially announced on 9th January 2026.

8: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mary stated that QQI collaborated with a consultancy for the ELE applications, highlighting that this decision was driven by the significant number of applicants and the consultancy's specialised understanding of ELE providers. QQI will continue to work with the consultancy for window 2 applications.

Ms Carol Hanneys Approvals and Reviews Committee membership is due to end on 31 December 2025. The chair thanked Carol for her dedication and contribution to the committee over the last few years.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Chair: _____

Date: _____