

**Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann**

**Quality and Qualifications Ireland**

**APPROVALS AND REVIEWS COMMITTEE**

Note of the Twenty Fifth meeting of the QQI Approvals and Reviews Committee, held via Teams **on Thursday 27 August 2020 at 11.00 am**

**Participation:**

Professor Irene Sheridan (Chair)

Ms Marie Kehoe O'Sullivan

Mr William Kelly

Ms Siobhan Kinsella

Ms Geraldine Larkin

Mr Kevin McStravock

Ms Colette Harrison

Ms Mary Sheridan

Ms Gráinne Power, Secretary

Mr Walter Balfe

Ms Deirdre Stritch

**Apologies:**

Dr Ailsa Crum

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

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

**2. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF 5 DECEMBER 2019 (ARC/M23) and 25 MARCH 2020 (ARC/M24)**

The Minutes of both meetings were previously approved by the Committee.

**3. NOTES OF THE MEETINGS OF 5 DECEMBER 2019 AND 25 MARCH 2020**

The Notes of both meetings were previously approved by the Committee and published on the QQI website.

**4. AMENDED TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE APPROVALS AND REVIEWS COMMITTEE**

The Committee noted the revised Terms of Reference approved by the Board on 19 June 2020, namely the introduction of the power to attach conditions to the approval of providers' quality assurance (QA) procedures and changes to how approval or validation are withdrawn. The Executive provided clarification on how these changes will impact on processes.

The Committee:

- noted the commencement of the amendments to the functions of approval of and withdrawal of approval of providers quality assurance procedures;  
and
- noted the changes to the Terms of Reference for the ARC.

***Deirdre Stritch and Walter Balfe joined the meeting for items 5, 6 and 7.***

**5. APPROVAL OF DRAFT QUALITY ASSURANCE PROCEDURES – Applicant Provider**

The Committee noted the recommendation of the QQI executive (A25/5.1) based on the recommendation of the Quality and Capacity Evaluation Panel report (A25/5.2). Following discussion, the Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI Executive to accept the findings of the panel report and therefore the Committee refused to approve, with recommendations, the application from the Applicant Provider.

**6. APPROVAL OF DRAFT QUALITY ASSURANCE PROCEDURES – Applicant Provider**

The Committee noted the recommendation of the QQI executive (A25/6.1) based on the recommendation of the Quality and Capacity Evaluation Panel report (A25/6.2). Following discussion, the Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI Executive to accept the findings of the panel report and therefore the Committee refused to approve, with recommendations, the application from the Applicant Provider.

**7. APPROVAL OF DRAFT QUALITY ASSURANCE PROCEDURES – Applicant Provider**

The Committee noted the recommendation of the QQI executive (A25/7.1) based on the recommendation of the Quality and Capacity Evaluation Panel report (A25/7.2). Following discussion, the Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI Executive to accept the findings of the panel report and therefore the Committee refused to approve, with recommendations, the application from the Applicant Provider. The Committee also accepted the clarification on Governance contained within the Response from the Applicant Provider.

**8. ANNUAL SELF-ASSESSMENT EVALUATION OF THE PERFORMANCE OF QQI COMMITTEES – ARC REPORT 2019**

The Committee noted the positive report of the Annual Self-Assessment Evaluation for 2019.

**9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

9.1 Next Meeting

Agreed the executive will issue a range of dates for agreement potentially for early October 2020 for the next meeting of the Committee.

This concluded the business of the meeting.