PROGRAMMES AND AWARDS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (PAEC)

Thursday 10 September 2020 at 2pm

via Microsoft Teams

Note of the 48th meeting of the QQI Programmes and Awards Executive Committee held via Microsoft Teams, at 2pm on **Thursday 10 September 2020.**

Present:
Dr Padraig Walsh (Chairperson)
Ms Andrina Wafer
Ms Angela Lambkin
Ms Barbara Kelly
Dr Bryan Maguire
Dr John O'Connor
Ms Marie Gould

In attendance:
Ms Therese Masterson (Key Executive)
Ms Janet Cawley (Secretary)
Ms Carmel Kelly
Mr Walter Balfe
Ms Alex Keys (Item 5.5.1)
Dr Deirdre Stritch (Item 9)

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Chairperson enquired and confirmed that there were no conflicts of interest in relation to any of the items of business before the Committee.

2. MINUTES OF MEETING OF 16 JULY 2020

2.1 The Minutes of the PAEC Meeting held on 16 July 2020 were approved by the Committee.

3. MATTERS ARISING

All matters arising were covered within agenda items and were discussed during the meeting.

4. NOTE OF THE MEETING, REPORT FOR THE BOARD

4.1 Note of Meeting of 16 July 2020

The Committee APPROVED the Note of the PAEC Meeting of 16 July 2020 for publication on the QQI website.

4.2 Report for the Board on the Meeting of 16 July 2020

The Committee NOTED the Report for the Board on the PAEC Meeting of 16 July 2020.

5. PROGRAMME VALIDATION APPLICATIONS

5.1 Further Education and Training (FET) Programmes

5.1.1 City Education Group

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and the detailed report presented. The Committee APPROVED the validation of the following programme:

5.1.1.1 PG24165, Purchasing Supply Chain and Logistics, Level 6, Major Award, 120 Credits *CAS Programme*

5.1.2 City Education Group

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and the detailed reports presented. The Committee APPROVED the validation of the following programmes:

5.1.2.1 PG24151, Healthcare Support, Level 5, Major Award, 120 FET Credits, *CAS Programme*

5.1.2.2 PG24152, Nursing Studies, Level 5, Major Award, 120 FET Credits, *CAS Programme*

5.2 Higher Education and Training Programmes – Programme Validation

5.2.1 Hibernia College Dublin

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and the detailed report presented. The Committee APPROVED the validation of the programme below for five years subject to any special conditions of validation, and all the conditions from the current validation policy listed in the proposed Certificate of Validation:

5.2.1.1 PG24317, Bachelor of Education (Honours) in Early Childhood Education, Level 8, Major Award, 240 Credits

5.2.2 CCT College

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and the detailed report presented. The Committee APPROVED the validation of the programmes below for five years subject to any special conditions of validation, and all the conditions from the current validation policy listed in the proposed Certificate of Validation:

5.2.2.1 PG24350, Higher Diploma in Science in Artificial Intelligence Applications, Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits

5.2.2.2 PG24349, Higher Diploma in Science in Data Analytics for Business, Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits

5.2.3 Dublin Business School

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and the detailed report presented. The Committee APPROVED the validation of the programme below for five years subject to any special conditions of

validation, and all the conditions from the current validation policy listed in the proposed Certificate of Validation:

PG24323, Higher Diploma in Science in Digital Marketing, Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits

5.3 Devolution of Responsibility for Validation Sub-Processes
No Business

5.4 Validation of Research Degree Programmes
No Business

5.5 Apprenticeship Programmes

5.5.1 Galway and Roscommon ETB

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and the detailed report presented. The Committee APPROVED the validation of the programme below for three years subject to any special conditions of validation, and all the conditions from the current validation policy listed in the proposed Certificate of Validation:

5.5.1.1 PG24256, Advanced Certificate in Arboriculture, Level 6, Major Award, 130 FET Credits

6. REVALIDATION

6.1 Application for Extension of Validation Period
No Business

6.2 Revalidation

6.2.1 National College of Ireland

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the revalidation of the following programmes for five years from September 2020 subject to any special conditions of validation, and all the conditions from the current validation policy listed in the proposed Certificate of Validation:

6.2.1.1 PG24390, Certificate in Trade Union Studies, Level 6, Special Purpose Award, 60 Credits

6.2.1.2 PG24378, Certificate in Business Analysis, Level 8, Special Purpose Award, 15 Credits

6.2.1.3 PG24375, Postgraduate Diploma in Arts in Educational Practice in Teaching for Further Education, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits

6.2.2 Dublin Business School

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the revalidation of the following programmes for five years from September 2020 subject to any special conditions of validation, and all the conditions from the current validation policy listed in the proposed Certificate of Validation:

6.2.2.1 PG24396, Bachelor of Arts in Film and Creative Media, Level 7, Major Award, 180 Credits
PG24397, Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Film and Creative Media, Level 8, Major Award, 180 Credit

6.2.2.2 PG24398, Bachelor of Business, Level 7, Major Award, 180 Credits
PG24399, Higher Certificate in Business, Level 6, Major Award, 120 Credits

6.2.2.3 PG24400, Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Science, Level 8, Major Award, 180 Credits

6.2.3 Griffith College

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the revalidation of the following programmes for five years from September 2020 subject to any special conditions of validation, and all the conditions from the current validation policy listed in the proposed Certificate of Validation:

6.2.3.1 PG24402, Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Business and Technology, Level 9, Major Award, 90 Credits
PG24403, Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Pharmaceutical Business and Technology, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits
PG24404, Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Pharmaceutical Business Operations, Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits

7. FOLLOW-UP ON PAEC RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONDITIONS IN PANEL REPORTS
No Business

8. QA FOR COLLABORATIVE AND TRANSNATIONAL PROVISION
No Business

9. APPROVAL OF QUALITY ASSURANCE PROCEDURES FOR LEGACY PROVIDERS (RE-ENGAGEMENT)

9.1 Bord Iascaigh Mhara

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the quality assurance procedures of Bord Iascaigh Mhara.

The Committee NOTED that all mandatory changes confirmed by the PAEC at its meeting on 5 December 2019 had been satisfactorily addressed.

9.2 A Named Provider

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated The Committee REFUSED to approve with recommendations the quality assurance procedures of the named provider (pending mandatory changes being made). The provider may submit revised procedures for approval within a six-month period of notification of this decision.

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The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee REFUSED to approve with recommendations the quality assurance procedures of the named provider (pending mandatory changes being made). The provider may submit revised procedures for approval within a six-month period of notification of this decision.

9.4 A Named Provider

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee REFUSED to approve with recommendations the quality assurance procedures of the named provider (pending mandatory changes being made). The provider may submit revised procedures for approval within a six-month period of notification of this decision.

9.5 CCT College Dublin – Blended Learning QA Approval

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the quality assurance procedures for blended learning of CCT College Dublin.

CCT College Dublin did not seek approval of procedures for blended learning as part of its reengagement application. These were submitted post the overall reengagement process, which was completed successfully by CCT in December 2018. A bespoke process was put in place and a panel appointed comprising a Chair, a report writer and a blended leaning expert. CCT College Dublin has accepted the findings of the report and has agreed to implement the advised improvements set out by the panel.

9.6 IICP College – Blended Learning QA Approval

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the quality assurance procedures for blended learning of IICP College.

IICP College did not seek approval of procedures for blended learning as part of its reengagement application. These were submitted post the overall reengagement process, which was completed successfully by IICP in February 2020. A bespoke process was put in place and a panel appointed comprising a Chair, the report writer from the original reengagement panel and a blended leaning expert. IICP has accepted the findings of the report and has agreed to implement the advised improvements set out by the panel.

10. ROUTINE STANDARDS ACTIVITIES UPDATE
No Business

11. CHANGE OF STATUS OF LEGACY HET AND FET PROVIDERS
No Business

12. REPORT FROM THE PROGRAMMES AND AWARDS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (PAOC)
No Business

13. CHANGE TO AWARD CLASSIFICATIONS – PROFESSIONAL MASTER OF EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

13.1 Change to Award Classifications – Professional Master of Education Programmes

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated.

Hibernia College requested the executive to change the classification for named award Professional Master of Education. This change affects the following programmes offered by Hibernia College:

PG21195   Professional Master of Education in Post Primary Education
PG21507   Professional Master of Education in Primary Education

The PAEC was requested to accept the recommendation of the QQI executive to amend the classification for awards of programmes leading to Professional Master of Education as follows:

Result Range	Grade	New Grade
70%+	1st Class Honours	1st Class Honours
60 - 69%	2nd Class Honours	2nd Class Honours Grade 1
50 - 59%	Pass	2nd Class Honours Grade 2
40 - 49%	Pass	Pass

The request to amend the classification was made to improve consistency with the classifications applied by other national awarding bodies for this award type, particularly in respect of the width of the Pass grade band.
In order not to disadvantage graduates of these programmes, the changes will be applied retrospectively to all learners who have graduated in the period 2016 to date.

The Committee ACCEPTED the recommendation of the executive to change the classification for named award Professional Master of Education so that it more closely aligns to the practice of other national awarding bodies.