PROGRAMMES AND AWARDS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (PAEC)

Tuesday 25 April 2023 at 9:30am

via Microsoft Teams

Note of the 65th meeting of the QQI Programmes and Awards Executive Committee held via Microsoft Teams, at 9:30am on **25 April 2023.**

Present:	**In attendance:**
Dr Padraig Walsh (Chairperson)	Ms Therese Masterson
Ms Andrea Durnin	Ms Janet Cawley (Secretary)
Ms Barbara Kelly	Ms Alex Keys
Dr Jim Murray	Ms Laura McNamee
Dr John O'Connor	Ms Marie Mattimoe
Ms Mary Grennan	Ms Michelle Gallagher
Ms Órla Barry	

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 9 FEBRUARY 2023

2.1 The Minutes of the PAEC Meeting held on 9 February 2023 were approved by the Committee.

3. MATTERS ARISING

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

4. NOTE OF THE MEETING, REPORTS FOR THE BOARD AND MEMBERSHIP OF PAEC COMMITTEE

4.1 Note of Meeting of 9 February 2023

The Committee APPROVED the Note of the PAEC Meeting of 9 February 2023 for publication on the QQI website.

4.2 Report for the Board on the PAEC meeting of 1 December 2022

The Committee NOTED the Report for the Board on the PAEC Meeting of 1 December 2022.

4.3 Report for the Board on the PAEC meeting of 9 February 2023

The Committee NOTED the Report for the Board on the PAEC Meeting of 9 February 2023.

4.4 Membership of the Programmes and Awards Executive Committee

The Committee noted the documentation circulated. The Committee NOTED that John O'Connor has been appointed to the Committee for another one-year term from 1 March 2023.

5.   PROGRAMME VALIDATION APPLICATIONS

5.1 Further Education and Training (FET) Programmes

5.1.1 Brigit's Garden

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:

5.1.1.1 PG25130, Certificate in Forest School Leadership, Level 6, Special Purpose Award, 20 FET Credits, *Non-CAS*

5.1.2 A Named Provider

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and the detailed report presented. The Committee agreed with the recommendation to REFUSE validation of one programme of a named provider.

The decision to refuse validation will be referred to the Programmes and Awards Oversight Committee (PAOC) for confirmation or referral back to the PAEC.

5.1.3 Elevation Training

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:

5.1.3.1 PG24787, Foundations of Community Care, Level 5, Minor Award, 30 FET Credits, *CAS Award*

5.1.4 Consortium of Centres for Nursing and Midwifery Education (CCNME) (HSE)

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:

5.1.4.1 PG25177, Level 5 Specific Purpose Certificate in Medicines Management in Disability Services, Level 5, Special Purpose Award, 15 FET Credits, *Non-CAS*

5.1.5 **City Education Group**

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:

5.1.5.1 PG25074, Advanced Certificate in Early Learning and Care, Level 6, Major Award, 240 Credits
PG25075, Level 5 Certificate in Early Learning and Care, Level 5, Major Award, 120 Credits
PG25076, Certificate in Introduction to ELC and Child Safeguarding, Level 5, Minor Award, 15 Credits
PG25077, Certificate in Inclusive Education and Care of Children with Additional Needs in ELC, Level 5, Minor Award, 15 Credits
PG25079, Certificate in Effective Leadership within ELC, Level 6, Minor Award, 25 Credits
PG25081, Certificate in Inclusion, Equality and Diversity in ELC, Level 6, Minor Award, 15 Credits, *Non-CAS*

5.1.6 **Chevron College Ltd**

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:

5.1.6.1 PG25089, Advanced Certificate in Early Learning and Care, Level 6, Major Award, 240 Credits
PG25090, Level 5 Certificate in Early Learning and Care, Level 5, Major Award, 120 Credits
PG25091, Certificate in Introduction to ELC and Child Safeguarding, Level 5, Minor Award, 15 Credits
PG25092, Certificate in Inclusive Education and Care of Children with Additional Needs in ELC, Level 5, Minor Award, 15 Credits
PG25093, Certificate in Effective Leadership within ELC, Level 6, Minor Award, 25 Credits
PG25094, Certificate in Inclusion, Equality and Diversity in ELC, Level 6, Minor Award, 15 Credits, *Non-CAS*

5.1.7 **College of Management and IT**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and the detailed reports 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:

5.1.7.1 PG25073, Advanced Certificate in Early Learning and Care, Level 6, Major Award, 240 Credits
PG25080, Level 5 Certificate in Early Learning and Care, Level 5, Major Award, 120 Credits
PG25085, Certificate in Introduction to ELC and Child Safeguarding, Level 5, Minor Award, 15 Credits
PG25086, Certificate in Inclusive Education and Care of Children with Additional Needs in ELC, Level 5, Minor Award, 15 Credits
PG25087, Certificate in Effective Leadership within ELC, Level 6, Minor Award, 25 Credits
PG25088, Certificate in Inclusion, Equality and Diversity in ELC, Level 6, Minor Award, 15 Credits, *Non-CAS*

5.1.8 **Markwatch Security Training Services Ltd**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and the detailed reports 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:

5.1.8.1 PG25152, Door Security Practices, Level 4, Minor Award, 10 FET credits, *CAS Award*

5.1.8.2 PG25142, Security Guarding, Level 4, Minor Award, 10 FET credits, *CAS Award*

5.1.9 **Cavan and Monaghan Education and Training Board**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and the detailed reports 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:

5.1.9.1 PG25012, Advanced Certificate in Audio and Music Production, Level 6, Major Award, 120 FET Credits, *Non-CAS*

5.1.9.2 PG25151, Level 3 Specific Purpose Certificate in Online Awareness and Responsibility, Level 3, Special Purpose Award, 10 FET Credits
PG25155, Certificate in Social Media Responsibility and Digital News Literacy, Level 3, Minor Award, 5 FET Credits
PG25157, Certificate in The Fundamentals of Online Financial Security, Level 3, Minor Award, 5 FET Credits, *Non-CAS*

5.1.10 **Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board**

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:

5.1.10.1 PG25182, Level 6 Specific Purpose Certificate in The Circular Economy in the Workplace, Level 6, Special Purpose Award, 5 FET Credits, *Non-CAS*

5.1.11 **Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board**

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:

5.1.11.1 PG25175, Exploring Our Past, Level 3, Special Purpose Award, 5 FET Credits, *Non-CAS*

5.1.12 **Kerry Education and Training Board**

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:

5.1.12.1 PG25057, Content Development for Film and Television, Level 6, Minor Award, 60 FET Credits, *CAS Award*

5.1.13 **Laois and Offaly Education and Training Board**

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:

5.1.13.1 PG25190, Level 5 Specific Purpose Certificate in Construction Skills for Energy Conservation, Level 5, Special Purpose Award, 30 FET Credit
PG25195, Certificate in External Wall Insulation, Level 5, Minor Award, 10 FET Credits
PG25196, Certificate in Retrofitting Skills, Level 5, Minor Award, 10 FET Credits
PG25197, Certificate in Airtightness and Vapour Control, Level 5, Minor Award, 10 FET Credits, *Non-CAS*

5.1.14 **Louth and Meath Education and Training Board**

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:

5.1.14.1 PG25227, Media Production, Level 6, Major Award, 120 FET Credits, *CAS Award, ETB*

5.2 Further Education and Training (FET) Programmes – Differential Validation

5.2.1 **Level 5, Specific Purpose Certificate in Resource Efficiency for a Sustainable Workplace**
Originally validated for Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim Education and Training Board (ETB) in December 2022.

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. As per the agreed procedure to facilitate differential validation of ETB programmes based on a shared curriculum, the programmes listed below were presented for validation to lead to the *Level 5 Specific Purpose Certificate in Resource Efficiency for a Sustainable Workplace.* The programmes are all based on a curriculum validated for Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim ETB in December 2022. Each was screened to ensure that there was only variation from that curriculum in provider-specific aspects.

The Committee APPROVED the validation of the following programmes:

Kilkenny and Carlow Education and Training Board
PG25040, Level 5 Specific Purpose Certificate in Resource Efficiency for a Sustainable Workplace, Level 5, Special Purpose Award, 5 FET Credits

Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board
PG25032, Level 5 Specific Purpose Certificate in Resource Efficiency for a Sustainable Workplace, Level 5, Special Purpose Award, 5 FET Credits

Cork Education and Training Board
PG25257, Level 5 Specific Purpose Certificate in Resource Efficiency for a Sustainable Workplace, Level 5, Special Purpose Award, 5 FET Credits

Cavan and Monaghan Education and Training Board

PG25233, Level 5 Specific Purpose Certificate in Resource Efficiency for a Sustainable Workplace, Level 5, Special Purpose Award, 5 FET Credits

Longford and Westmeath Education and Training Board
PG25245, Level 5 Specific Purpose Certificate in Resource Efficiency for a Sustainable Workplace, Level 5, Special Purpose Award, 5 FET Credits

Non-CAS, Microcredential, Differential Validation

5.2.2 **Level 5 Specific Purpose Certificate in Digital Assisted Eco Driving**
Originally validated for Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim ETB (Lead) and Waterford and Wexford ETB in April 2021

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. As per the agreed procedure to facilitate differential validation of ETB programmes based on a shared curriculum, the programme listed below was presented for validation to lead to the *Level 5 Specific Purpose Certificate in Digital Assisted Eco Driving.* The programme is based on a curriculum validated for Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim ETB (Lead) and Waterford and Wexford ETB in April 2021. It was screened to ensure that there is only variation from that curriculum in provider-specific aspects.

The Committee APPROVED the validation of the following programme:

Cork Education and Training Board
PG25207, Level 5 Specific Purpose Certificate in Digital Assisted Eco Driving, Level 5, Special Purpose Award, 10 Credits
Non-CAS, Microcredential, Differential Validation

5.2.3 **Level 5 Specific Purpose Certificate in Digital Assisted Eco Driving (Coach and Bus)**
Originally validated for Waterford and Wexford ETB, Kilkenny and Carlow ETB, and Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim ETB validated in June 2022

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. As per the agreed procedure to facilitate differential validation of ETB programmes based on a shared curriculum, the programme listed below was presented for validation to lead to the *Level 5 Specific Purpose Certificate in Digital Assisted Eco Driving (Coach and Bus).* The programme is based on a curriculum validated for Waterford and Wexford ETB, Kilkenny and Carlow ETB and Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim ETB validated in June 2022. It was screened to ensure that there is only variation from that curriculum in provider-specific aspects.

Cork Education and Training Board
PG25206, Level 5 Specific Purpose Certificate in Digital Assisted Eco Driving (Coach & Bus), Level 5, Special Purpose Award, 10 Credits
Non-CAS, Microcredential, Differential Validation

5.2.4 **Digital Media Production, Level 6, Major Award, 120 FET Credits**
Originally validated for Cork ETB in September 2022.

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. As per the agreed procedure to facilitate differential validation of ETB programmes based on a shared curriculum, the programme listed below was presented for validation to lead to the *Digital Media Production, Level 6, Major Award.* The programme is based on a curriculum validated for Cork ETB in September 2022. It was screened to ensure that there is only variation from that curriculum in provider-specific aspects.

Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board

PG25025, Digital Media Production, Level 6, Major Award, 120 FET Credits
CAS Award, Differential Validation

5.2.5 **Level 3 Specific Purpose Certificate in Learning to Support Children in Primary School,**
Certificate in Supporting Children with Learning in Primary School,
Certificate in Supporting Children with Literacy in Primary School,
Certificate in Supporting Children with Digital Literacy in Primary School,
Certificate in Supporting Children with Maths in Primary School
Originally validated for Kilkenny and Carlow ETB in February 2023

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. As per the agreed procedure to facilitate differential validation of ETB programmes based on a shared curriculum, the programmes listed below were presented for validation to lead to the:

- Level 3 Specific Purpose Certificate in Learning to Support Children in Primary School
- Certificate in Supporting Children with Learning in Primary School
- Certificate in Supporting Children with Literacy in Primary School
- Certificate in Supporting Children with Digital Literacy in Primary School
- Certificate in Supporting Children with Maths in Primary School

The programmes are based on a curriculum validated for Kilkenny and Carlow ETB in February 2023. They were screened to ensure that there is only variation from the curriculum in provider-specific aspects.

Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim Education and Training Board
PG25256, Level 3 Specific Purpose Certificate in Learning to Support Children in Primary School, Level 3, Special Purpose Award, 25 FET Credits
PG25259, Certificate in Supporting Children with Learning in Primary School, Level 3, Minor Award, 10 FET Credits
PG25260, Certificate in Supporting Children with Literacy in Primary School, Level 3, Minor Award, 5 FET Credits
PG25261, Certificate in Supporting Children with Digital Literacy in Primary School, Level 3, Minor Award, 5 FET Credits
PG25263, Certificate in Supporting Children with Maths in Primary School, Level 3, Minor Award, 5 FET Credits

Non-CAS, Microcredential, Differential Validation

5.2.6 **Level 5 Specific Purpose Certificate in Building Digital Business Skills,**
Certificate in Social Media for Digital Marketing,
Certificate in Digital Business Solutions
Originally validated for Tipperary ETB in June 2022.

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. As per the agreed procedure to facilitate differential validation of ETB programmes based on a shared curriculum, the programmes listed below were presented for validation to lead to the:

- Level 5 Specific Purpose Certificate in Building Digital Business Skills
- Certificate in Social Media for Digital Marketing
- Certificate in Digital Business Solutions

The programmes are based on a curriculum validated for Tipperary ETB in June 2022. They were screened to ensure that there is only variation from the curriculum in provider-specific aspects.

Longford and Westmeath Education and Training Board
PG25237, Level 5 Specific Purpose Certificate in Building Digital Business Skills, Level 5, Special Purpose Award, 10 FET Credits
PG25276, Certificate in Social Media for Digital Marketing, Level 5, Minor Award, 5 FET Credits
PG25275, Certificate in Digital Business Solutions, Level 5, Minor Award, 5 FET Credits

Non-CAS, Microcredential, Differential Validation

5.2.7   **Level 5 Specific Purpose Certificate in Fish Farm Techniques,**
         Certificate in Nutrition and Feed Distribution at Fish Farms,
         Certificate in Fish Handling and Sea Lice Screening,
         Certificate in Introduction to Biosecurity
         Originally validated for Galway and Roscommon ETB in February 2022.

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. As per the agreed procedure to facilitate differential validation of ETB programmes based on a shared curriculum, the programmes listed below were presented for validation to lead to the:

- Level 5 Specific Purpose Certificate in Fish Farm Techniques,
- Certificate in Nutrition and Feed Distribution at Fish Farms
- Certificate in Fish Handling and Sea Lice Screening
- Certificate in Introduction to Biosecurity

The programmes are based on a curriculum validated for Galway and Roscommon ETB in February 2022. They were screened to ensure that there is only variation from the curriculum in provider-specific aspects.

Cork Education and Training Board
PG25262, Level 5 Specific Purpose Certificate in Fish Farm Techniques, Level 5, Special Purpose Award, 15 FET Credits
PG25265, Certificate in Nutrition and Feed Distribution at Fish Farms, Level 5, Minor Award, 5 Credits
PG25266, Certificate in Fish Handling and Sea Lice Screening, Level 5, Minor Award, 5 FET Credits
PG25268, Certificate in Introduction to Biosecurity, Level 5, Minor Award, 5 FET Credits

Non-CAS, Microcredential, Differential Validation

5.3 Higher Education and Training Programmes – Programme Validation

5.3.1 **IICP College**

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 Certificates of Validation:

5.3.1.1 PG25191, Higher Diploma in Science in Integrative Psychotherapeutic Studies, Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits

5.3.2 **Royal College of Physicians of Ireland**

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:

5.3.2.1 PG25033, Certificate in Cancer Genetics and Genomics, Level 9, Special Purpose Award, 30 Credits

5.3.3 **Dublin Design Institute**

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:

5.3.3.1 PG24925, Bachelor of Arts in Interior Design, Level 7, Major Award, 180 Credits PG24926, Higher Certificate in Arts in Interior Design, Level 6, Major Award, 120 Credits
PG24927, Certificate in Interior Design, Level 6, Minor Award, 60 Credits
PG24928, Certificate in Interior Design Introduction, Level 6, Minor Award, 20 Credits
PG24929, Certificate in BIM Introduction, Level 6, Minor Award, 5 Credits
PG24930, Certificate in CAD Introduction, Level 6, Minor Award, 5 Credits

5.3.4 **Dublin Business School**

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

5.3.4.1 PG24864, Master of Science in Business Analytics, Level 9, Major Award, 90 Credits
PG24866, Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Business Analytics, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits *(Exit Award) Differential Validation - Transnational*

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

5.3.4.2 PG24867, Master of Science in Digital Marketing and Analytics, Level 9, Major Award, 90 Credits
PG24868, Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Digital Marketing and Analytics, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits *(Exit Award) Differential Validation – Transnational*

5.3.5 **City Education Group**

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:

5.3.5.2. PG24832, Higher Diploma in Science in Data Analytics, Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits

5.4 Devolution of Responsibility for Validation Sub-Processes

5.4.1 **CCT College Dublin**

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum and documentation circulated. CCT College submitted draft quality assurance procedures for programme validation and a draft Memorandum of Agreement between QQI and CCT College in respect of their application for devolution of responsibility for validation sub-processes.

The application included the following information to meet the criteria for devolution of responsibility for validation sub-processes:

a) Self-evaluation Report against the three criteria set out in in QQI's (2018) Devolution of Responsibility for arranging (Programme Validation Related) Independent Evaluation Reports at QQI's request: OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES.

b) Draft Memorandum of Agreement between QQI and CCT College.

c) Validation Policy with Procedures for Managing Devolution of Responsibility for Arranging (Programme Validation Related) Independent Evaluation Reports at QQI's Request.

The Committee APPROVED the application for Devolution of Responsibility for Validation Sub-Processes and AGREED to delegate responsibility to the QQI executive for approval of any amendments required.

5.5 Validation of Research Degree Programmes
No Business

5.6 Apprenticeship Programmes
No Business

6. REVALIDATION

6.1 Application for Extension of Validation Period

6.1.1 IICP College

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. IICP College Dublin requested a one-year extension of validation for the following programmes:

6.1.1.1 PG23700, Master of Arts in Integrative Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy, Level 9, Major Award, 90 Credits
PG23701, Postgraduate Diploma in Arts in Integrative Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits *(Exit Award)*

The rationale for this request was as follows:

The request for extensions of validation comes in the context of imminent regulation under CORU, the health and social care professional regulator. One specific aim of the College is to ensure the revalidation of these programmes would also be aligned with the CORU requirements/education standards which are yet to be released. IICP College is considering proposed changes to the

programmes based on the evidence they have gathered from stakeholders. The College is seeking to have an extension of an additional year to allow the programme team to conduct its review and submit a validation that is informed by the CORU education standards.

The Committee APPROVED the request to extend the last intake date of the programmes above to August 2024.

6.1.2 **The Open Training College**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Open Training College requested a one-year extension of validation for the following programmes:

6.1.2.1 PG23916, Bachelor of Arts in Applied Management (Human Services), Level 7, Major Award, 180 Credits
PG23918, Higher Certificate in Arts in Applied Management (Human Services), Level 6, Major Award, 120 Credits
PG23919, Certificate in Applied Management (Human Services), Level 6, Minor Award, 60 Credits
PG23924, Certificate in Managing Service Quality and Safeguarding, Level 6, Minor Award, 10 Credits
PG23925, Certificate in Key Management Skills, Level 6, Minor Award, 10 Credits

PG23915, Certificate in Supported Employment, Level 7, Special Purpose Award, 20 Credits

PG22383, Bachelor of Arts in Contemporary Disability Studies, Level 7, Major Award, 180 Credits
PG22419, Certificate in Focus on the Individual, Level 6, Minor Award, 15 Credits
PG22416, Certificate in Empowerment and Advocacy, Level 6, Minor Award, 10 Credits
PG22414, Certificate in Active Inclusion, Level 7, Minor Award, 10 Credits
PG22409, Certificate in Autism, Wellbeing and Positive Behaviour Supports, Level 7, Special Purpose Award, 20 Credits

The rationale for this request was as follows:

For the Applied Management programmes, the central rationale for this extension request relates to allowing for the publication of, and subsequent measurement against, the statutory online learning guidelines, which are scheduled to be available over the next year.

For the Contemporary Disability programme, the College would like to further investigate the continuing viability of this programme over the next year, while continuing to offer some of the more popular minor awards which are attached to this programme. Other Minor and Special Purpose awards included in this suite will be allowed to lapse at the end of the current validation period, as they have been found not to be commercially sustainable, and the College has notified QQI of this intention.

For the Certificate in Supported Employment, the College hopes to extend this programme to align its revalidation process with OTC's other Social Care Programmes which are due for revalidation in the next academic year.

The Committee APPROVED the request to extend the last intake date of the programmes above to September 2023 and August 2024 respectively.

6.1.3 **Dublin Business School**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. Dublin Business School requested a one-year extension of validation for the following programmes:

6.1.3.1 PG23890, Higher Certificate in Arts in Sound Engineering and Music Production, Level 6, Major Award, 120 Credits
PG23892, Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Audio Production and Music Project Management, Level 8, Major Award, 180 Credits

The rationale for this request was as follows:

DBS are currently seeking to develop new programme proposals in the creative media area which has led to a strategic review of their current programmes in this field. The provider considered that the *Higher Certificate in Arts in Sound Engineering and Music Production* and *the Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Audio Production and Music Project Management* be aligned and contemporaneously examined and developed as part of this strategic review. An extension of the programmes validation of one year would facilitate the further development and review of teaching practices, recording of performances by clients and associated learning outcomes achieved that are necessary for the complete review.

The Committee APPROVED the request to extend the last intake date of the programmes above to August 2024.

6.1.4 Fast Track into Information Technology

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. Fast Track into Information Technology requested a one-year extension of validation for the following programme:

6.1.4.1 PG24039, Advanced Certificate in Cybersecurity, Level 6, Major Award, 171 FET Credits
Apprenticeship

The rationale for this request was as follows:

In 2022, Fast Track into Information Technology (FIT) undertook and concluded the review process for two other apprenticeship programmes. Unfortunately, due to the depth of the review processes concerning these programmes, it was not possible to begin the review process for the Advanced Certificate in Cybersecurity. However, FIT intends to agree on the Terms of Reference with QQI and undertake this activity commencing in June 2023. FIT is requesting an extension for the programme until April 2024, this will allow for an active intake through the calendar year 2023. FIT expects to complete the programme review in the latter months of 2023.

The Committee APPROVED the request to extend the last intake date of the programme above to April 2024.

6.1.5 Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim Education and Training Board (MSLETB)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. MSLETB requested a one-year extension of validation for the following programme:

6.1.5.1 PG24153, Advanced Certificate in Sales, Level 6, Major Award, 180 FET Credits
Apprenticeship

The rationale for this request was as follows:

The extension request will allow MSLETB time for a delayed internal review of the programme to be undertaken. The programme commenced later than expected because of the pandemic. MSLETB is

requesting an extension for the programme until February 2024, this will allow for an active intake through the calendar year 2023. MSLETB expects to complete the programme review in the latter months of 2023.

The Committee APPROVED the request to extend the last intake date of the programme above to February 2024.

6.1.6 Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. LCETB requested a one-year extension of validation for the following programme:

6.1.6.1 PG24113, Advanced Certificate in Hairdressing, Level 6, Major Award, 225 FET Credits
Apprenticeship

The rationale for this request was as follows:

In 2022, LCETB commenced the revalidation process. LCETB have conducted comprehensive and extensive research with all stakeholder groups connected to the National Hairdressing Association (NHA) programme. Initial feedback from the industry-led Consortium Steering Group expressed an overall demand for the integration of diverse hair types in the apprenticeship programme occupation profile. Sourcing the required expertise has proven particularly challenging as it currently does not exist in Ireland. Additionally, analysis of the revalidation research has highlighted the need for several significant changes to be made to the programme content, learning outcomes and assessments. Each of these changes must undergo a series of reviews by subject matter experts, peers, quality assurance and technology enhanced learning personnel. When the review process has been completed and amendments have been signed off for implementation, several stakeholder groups will be impacted.

LCETB is requesting an extension for the programme until March 2024, this will allow for an active intake through the calendar year 2023. LCETB expects to complete the programme review in the latter months of 2023.

The Committee APPROVED the request to extend the last intake date of the programme above to March 2024.

6.1.7 Education and Training Boards – Shared Curriculum

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. Various Education and Training Boards requested a one-year extension of validation for the following programmes:

6.1.7.1 *Advanced Certificate in Agriculture*
Certificate in Agriculture
Certificate in Farming

Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim Education and Training Board

PG24118, Advanced Certificate in Agriculture, Major Award, Level 6, 120 FET Credits
PG24117, Certificate in Agriculture, Major Award, Level 5, 120 FET Credits
PG24119, Certificate in Farming, Major Award, Level 6, 50 FET Credits

Waterford and Wexford Education and Training Board

PG24121, Advanced Certificate in Agriculture, Major Award, Level 6, 120 FET Credits
PG24120, Certificate in Agriculture, Major Award, Level 5, 120 FET Credits

PG24122, Certificate in Farming, Major Award, Level 6, 50 FET Credits

Galway and Roscommon Education and Training Board

PG24126, Advanced Certificate in Agriculture, Major Award, Level 6, 120 FET Credits
PG24124, Certificate in Agriculture, Major Award, Level 5, 120 FET Credits
PG24125, Certificate in Farming, Major Award, Level 6, 50 FET Credits

CAS Award, Shared Curriculum

The rationale for this request was as follows:

The extension request will allow MSLETB, WWETB and GRTEB time for a delayed cross-ETB review to be undertaken.

MSLETB, WWETB and GRTEB are requesting an extension for the programmes until September 2024, this will allow for an active intake through the calendar year 2023. The programmes' review is expected to be completed in the latter months of 2023.

The Committee APPROVED the request to extend the last intake date of the programmes above to September 2024.

6.2 Applications for Revalidation

6.2.1 Cavan and Monaghan Education and Training Board

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the revalidation of the following programme 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:

6.2.1.1 PG25283, Advanced Certificate in Original Equipment Manufacturing Engineering, Level 6, Major Award, 240 FET Credits, *Apprenticeship*

6.2.2 Retail Ireland Skillnet

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the revalidation of the following programme 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:

6.2.2.*1* PG25284, Advanced Certificate in Retail Supervision, Level 6, Major Award, 240 FET Credits *Apprenticeship*

6.2.3 Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim Education and Training Board

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the revalidation of the following programme 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:

6.2.3.1 PG25279, Level 5 Certificate in Craft Butchery, Level 5, Major Award, 155 FET Credits *Apprenticeship*

6.2.4 Fast Track into Information Technology

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the revalidation of the following programmes 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:

6.2.4.1 PG25295, Advanced Certificate in Computer Programming, Level 6, Major Award, 200 FET Credits
PG25296, Advanced Certificate in Computer Networking, Level 6, Major Award, 200 FET Credits *Apprenticeship*

6.2.5 **National College of Ireland**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the revalidation of the following programmes 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:

6.2.5.1 PG25255 Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Business, Level 8, Major Award, 240 Credits
PG25254 Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Business, Level 8, Major Award, 180 Credits
PG25267 Higher Certificate in Business, Level 6, Major Award, 120 Credits

6.2.5.2 PG25239 Master of Science in Cybersecurity, Level 9, Major Award, 90 Credits
PG25241 Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Cybersecurity, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits
PG25243 Master of Science in FinTech, Level 9, Major Award, 90 Credits
PG25246 Postgraduate Diploma in Science in FinTech, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits.

6.3 Request for Modification of Validated Programmes
No Business

7. FOLLOW-UP ON PAEC RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONDITIONS IN PANEL REPORTS

7.1 Update on the follow-up of conditions of validation

QQI is required to follow up on any special conditions of validation identified by an evaluation panel. The special conditions of validation that require follow-up are any conditions that have yet to be met at the time of the PAEC meeting at which the relevant application for validation is being considered, or those conditions that are ongoing in nature and will require explicit monitoring for the period for which the programme has been validated.

7.1.1 **International Centre for Security Excellence**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. At the February 2023 PAEC meeting, QQI validated, with three conditions, the following programmes from the International Centre for Security Excellence (ICSE):

PG25143, Door Security, Level 4, Minor Award, 10 FET credits
PG25131, Security Guarding Skills, Level 4, Minor Award, 10 FET credits

The Committee NOTED that the executive considers the conditions of validation to be met and that no further follow-up is required.

7.2 Update on the follow-up of conditions of QA Approval

As part of its internal quality assurance procedures, the executive is required to follow up on any Conditions of QA Approval imposed by the Programmes and Awards Executive Committee.

7.2.1 KARE

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. At its meeting on 7 April 2022, the PAEC approved the QA procedures of KARE with three conditions of QA approval and noted that the executive was satisfied that conditions 2 and 3 below of QA approval had been appropriately addressed by KARE.

The Committee NOTED that the executive now considers the condition 1 to be met and that no further follow-up is required.

7.2.2 Forus Training

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as PAEC/A65/7.2.2. At its meeting on 9 June 2022, the PAEC approved the QA procedures of Forus Training with two Conditions of QA Approval.

The Committee NOTED that the executive now considers the condition 2 to be met.

8. QA FOR COLLABORATIVE AND TRANSNATIONAL PROVISION
No Business

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

9.1 Approval of Quality Assurance Procedures for Legacy Providers (Re-Engagement)

9.1.1 A Named Provider

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated.

The Committee REFUSED TO APPROVE WITH RECOMMENDATIONS (pending mandatory changes being made) the named provider's application for QA Approval. The named provider may submit revised procedures for approval within a six-month period of notification of this decision.

9.1.2 A Named Provider

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated.

The Committee REFUSED TO APPROVE WITH RECOMMENDATIONS (pending mandatory changes being made) the named provider's application for QA Approval. The named provider may submit revised procedures for approval within a six-month period of notification of this decision.

The Committee REFUSED TO APPROVE WITH RECOMMENDATIONS (pending mandatory changes being made) the named provider's application to extend its current scope of provision to include collaborative provision as first provider. The named provider may submit revised procedures for approval within a six-month period of notification of this decision.

9.1.3 A Named Provider

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated.

The Committee REFUSED TO APPROVE WITH RECOMMENDATIONS (pending mandatory changes being made the named provider's application for QA Approval. The named provider may submit revised procedures for approval within a six-month period of notification of this decision.

9.1.4 A Named Provider

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated.

The Committee REFUSED TO APPROVE WITH RECOMMENDATIONS (pending mandatory changes being made) the named provider's application for QA Approval. The named provider may submit revised procedures for approval within a six-month period of notification of this decision.

9.1.5 A Named Provider

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated.

The Committee REFUSED TO APPROVE WITH RECOMMENDATIONS (pending mandatory changes being made) the named provider's application for QA Approval. The named provider may submit revised procedures for approval within a six-month period of notification of this decision.

9.1.6 A Named Provider

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated.

The Committee REFUSED TO APPROVE WITH RECOMMENDATIONS (pending mandatory changes being made) the named provider's application for QA Approval. The named provider may submit revised procedures for approval within a six-month period of notification of this decision.

9.1.7 Forus Training – Blended Learning QA Approval

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as 9.1.7.

The Committee APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS Forus Training's application for Blended Learning QA Approval.

9.1.8 A Named Provider

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated.

The Committee REFUSED TO APPROVE WITH RECOMMENDATIONS (pending mandatory changes being made) the named provider's application for QA Approval. The named provider may submit revised procedures for approval within a six-month period of notification of this decision.

9.1.9 A Named Provider

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated.

The Committee REFUSED TO APPROVE the named provider's application for QA Approval.

The Committee NOTED that the decision to refuse QA Approval will be referred for consideration by the QQI Board.

9.1.10 Aspire Training

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated.

The Committee APPROVED WITH A CONDITION the quality assurance procedures of Aspire Training.

9.1.11 Women's Community Projects Mullingar

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated.

The Committee APPROVED with conditions the quality assurance procedures of Women's Community Projects Mullingar.

The Committee NOTED that the executive now considers condition 2 of QA approval to be met.

9.1.12 Pinnacle Training

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated.

The Committee APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS the quality assurance procedures of Pinnacle Training.

The Committee NOTED that the executive now considers conditions 1, 2 and 3 of QA approval to be met.

9.1.13 Bon Secours Hospital Cork

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated.

The Committee APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS the quality assurance procedures of Bon Secours Hospital Cork.

The Committee NOTED that the executive now considers all the conditions of QA approval to be met.

9.1.14 O'Dwyer Safety Services Ltd

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated.

The Committee APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS the quality assurance procedures of O'Dwyer Safety Services Ltd.

The Committee NOTED that the executive now considers the conditions 1, 2 and 3 to be met.

9.1.15 TEAM LM

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated.

The Committee APPROVED the quality assurance procedures of TEAM LM.

9.1.16 Fusion Training & Development Ltd

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated.

The Committee APPROVED WITH A CONDITION the quality assurance procedures of Fusion Training & Development Ltd.

The Committee NOTED that the executive now considers the condition of QA approval to be met and that no further follow-up is required.

9.1.17 **Kilmuckridge Centre of Further Education**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated.

The Committee APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS the quality assurance procedures of Kilmuckridge Centre of Further Education.

9.1.18 **A Named Provider**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated.

The Committee REFUSED TO APPROVE the named provider's application for QA Approval.

The Committee NOTED that the decision to refuse QA Approval will be referred for consideration by the QQI Board.

10. ROUTINE STANDARDS ACTIVITIES UPDATE
No Business

11. CHANGE OF STATUS OF LEGACY HET AND FET PROVIDERS

11.1 Change of Status of Legacy HET and FET Providers

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. Two providers were to have their QA Agreements rescinded and the validation of their programmes withdrawn due to:

- Voluntary decision by the providers not to reengage
- Voluntary decision to become a second provider to an ETB as an alternative to reengagement.

All providers listed in the documentation have been met virtually by QQI and have had the opportunity to agree a wind-down process to ensure that any programme in process and/or certification in process has been completed.

The Committee APPROVED the withdrawal of approval of the providers' quality assurance and withdrawal of validation of the associated programmes. The executive will send a registered letter of notification to each provider.

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

13. INTENTION TO WITHDRAW VALIDATION OF PROGRAMMES

13.1 Intention to withdraw validation of programmes

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated. QQI contacted all HET private providers, to perform a census about which, if any, validated programmes are connected to Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies (PSRBs). Within its response, a named provider identified 13 programmes which should have their validation withdrawn.

The Committee APPROVED the withdrawal of validation of the programmes listed in the documentation.

14. SOLAS - UPDATE REPORT ON CRAFT APPRENTICESHIP REVALIDATION

14.1 SOLAS - Update Report on Craft Apprenticeship Revalidation

The Committee NOTED the Update Report on Craft Apprenticeship Revalidations circulated. On 15 and 16 February 2023, the Independent Review Panel met with SOLAS to review the five craft apprenticeship programmes. SOLAS have received the panel reports for all five programmes and are working on their responses. On 21 March, a meeting was held with SOLAS to discuss several issues.

The Committee NOTED the Update Report on Craft Apprenticeship Revalidations.