Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann

Quality and Qualifications Ireland

APPROVALS AND REVIEWS COMMITTEE

Notes of the Thirty Fourth meeting of the QQI Approvals and Reviews Committee, held via Teams **on Thursday 26 May 2022 at 11.30 am**

Participation:

Professor Irene Sheridan (Chair)
Ms Laura Flynn
Ms Anna Murphy
Mr Ronan O'Loughlin
Mr Gerry O'Sullivan
Mr Tony Pettit

Ms Gráinne Power, Secretary
Ms Alex Keyes
Ms Marie Gould
Ms Orlaith O'Loughlin

Apologies:

Ms Carol Hanney
Mr Billy Kelly
Ms Siobhán Kinsella
Ms Megan O'Connor

The Chair on behalf of the Committee welcomed Tony Pettit and Anna Murphy to their first meeting of the Committee.

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

   The Committee approved the agenda for the meeting. There were no other conflicts of interest in relation to any of the items of business before the Committee.

2. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 7 MARCH 2022 (ARC/M33)**

   The Committee approved the Minutes of the ARC meeting held on 7 March 2022.

3. **NOTES OF THE MEETING OF 7 MARCH 2022**

   The Committee approved the Notes of the ARC meeting held on 7 March 2022 which will be published on the QQI website.

4. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

   There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

5. **QUALITY ASSURANCE PROCEDURES**

Alex Keyes joined the meeting to present items 5, 6 and 7

5.1 Approval of Draft Quality Assurance Procedures – **Consortium of Centres of Nursing and Midwifery Education (CCNME)**

The Committee noted the recommendation of the QQI executive (A34/5.1) based on the recommendation of the Quality and Capacity Evaluation Panel report (A34/5.2). Following discussion, the Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI Executive to approve the draft quality assurance procedures. CCNME is now approved to progress to Stage 2 of the access to initial programme validation process.

6. **QUALITY ASSURANCE PROCEDURES**

6.1 Approval of Draft Quality Assurance Procedures – **Unihaven Ltd**

The Committee noted the recommendation of the QQI executive (A34/6.1) based on the recommendation of the Quality and Capacity Evaluation Panel report (A34/6.2). Following discussion, the Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI Executive to approve the draft quality assurance procedures. Unihaven Ltd is now approved to progress to Stage 2 of the access to initial programme validation process.

7. **QUALITY ASSURANCE PROCEDURES**

7.1 Follow-Up on Conditions of QA Approval – Steer Training

The Committee noted that Steer Training had addressed the Condition of QA Approval and further noted that the Executive was satisfied that Condition 2 of QA Approval had been met**.**

8. **EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD INAUGURAL REVIEW**

Marie Gould and Orlaith O'Loughlin joined the meeting to present items 8, 9 and 10

8.1 Approval to Publish the Report of Kerry Education and Training Board

The Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI Executive to publish the final report and ETB response of the inaugural review of Kerry Education and Training Board.

9. **EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD INAUGURAL REVIEW**

9.1 Approval to Publish the Report of Waterford and Wexford Education and Training Board

The Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI Executive to publish the final report and ETB response of the inaugural review of Waterford and Wexford Education and Training Board.

10. **EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD INAUGURAL REVIEW**

10.1 Approval to Publish the Report of Kilkenny and Carlow Education and Training Board

The Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI Executive to publish the

final report and ETB response of the inaugural review of Kilkenny and Carlow Education and Training Board.

11. **ANNUAL SELF-ASSESSMENT EVALUATION OF THE PERFORMANCE OF QQI COMMITTEES – ARC REPORT 2021**

The Committee noted the Self-Assessment Report for 2021. The Committee discussed and reflected on the mainly positive overall comments contained therein. A small number of comments related to improved overall communication and the committee considered that this might be addressed by some of the following means:

- a dedicated meeting to reflect on the Committee's Terms of Reference (TOR)
- a central repository site for Committee documentation for example TOR, Committee members biographies
- additional feedback from QQI on its role
- information provided in advance and focused reflection on new processes as they emerge: how they will work, the focus, committee role etc. For example, the Sectoral Report on the Inaugural Review of Quality Assurance in the Education & Training Boards (October meeting)
- that new staff at QQI to have a short information session on the committees, colleagues involved and the role and remit of the Committee

12. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

This concluded the business of the meeting.