

**Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann**

**Quality and Qualifications Ireland**

**APPROVALS AND REVIEWS COMMITTEE**

Notes of the Thirty First meeting of the QQI Approvals and Reviews Committee, held via Teams **on Thursday 19 August 2021 at 11.30 am**

**Participation:**

Professor Irene Sheridan (Chair)

Ms Geraldine Larkin

Ms Colette Harrison

Mr Ronan O'Loughlin

Ms Mary Sheridan

Ms Gráinne Power, Secretary

Dr Deirdre Stritch

Ms Marie Gould

Ms Mairéad Boland

Ms Orlaith O'Loughlin

**Apologies:**

Mr William Kelly

Ms Siobhan Kinsella

The Chair on behalf of the Committee welcomed Ronan to his first meeting, extended good wishes for the future to Colette on her upcoming retirement and expressed thanks for Colette's work with the Committee since its inception.

**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 MEETING OF 20 MAY (ARC/M30)**

The Committee approved the Minute of the ARC meeting held on 20 May 2021.

**3. NOTES OF THE MEETING OF 20 MAY 2021**

The Committee approved the Note of the ARC meeting held on 20 May 2021 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**

Deirdre Stritch joined the meeting to present items 5 and 6.

### 5.1 Approval of Draft Quality Assurance Procedures – Western Management Centre

The Committee noted the recommendation of the QQI executive (A31/5.1) based on the recommendation of the Quality and Capacity Evaluation Panel report (A31/5.2). Following discussion, the Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI Executive to approve the application from the Western Management Centre. WMC 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 – Applicant Provider

The Committee noted the recommendation of the QQI executive (A31/6.1) based on the recommendation of the Quality and Capacity Evaluation Panel report (A31/6.2). Following discussion, the Committee accepted the recommendation of the QQI Executive to refuse to approve, with recommendations, the application from the Applicant Provider.

The Chair on behalf of the Committee extended best wishes for the future to Deirdre on her departure from QQI and expressed thanks for her work with the Committee.

## 7. **EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD INAUGURAL REVIEW - Approval to Publish Report of Limerick & Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB)**

Marie Gould, Mairéad Boland and Orlaith O’Loughlin joined the meeting to present this item.

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

The Committee commended QQI and the TEMRU unit for the huge task that has been undertaken in these reviews.

## 8. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The next meeting of the ARC will take place in early October 2021 – date to be confirmed.