

Inaugural Review of **QUALITY ASSURANCE** in LMETB

QQI's Inaugural Review of Quality Assurance in Education and Training Boards commenced in 2021. LMETB is currently engaging in this process.

AIM

The aim of the inaugural review is to provide an independent external evaluation of the implementation and effectiveness of the Quality Assurance procedures within LMETB.



SCOPE

The scope of the Inaugural Review will be LMETB's Quality Assurance procedures within its Further Education and Training (FET) provision and related services.

The review will also include LMETB's engagement with other stakeholders, both locally and nationally, who it works with in the provision of FET programmes and related services.

FOCUS

This inaugural review will focus on the implementation and effectiveness of Quality Assurance procedures in:

- Governance and management of quality
- Teaching, learning and assessment
- Self-evaluation, monitoring and review.

The review will:

- examine the design and planning of LMETB's internal quality processes and their consistency with relevant guidelines for the sector
- evaluate the effectiveness of LMETB's internal

Quality Assurance procedures

- identify perceived gaps in LMETB's internal Quality Assurance mechanisms and evaluate the planned measures to address them
- explore LMETB's achievements and innovations in the area of Quality Assurance and enhancement of teaching and learning.

The review will seek to ascertain the extent to which LMETB has established arrangements to assure itself of quality in respect of all of its centres and provision.



METHODOLOGY

In line with QQI's Terms of Reference for the Inaugural Review, the methodology will be as follows:

1. Completion of a self-evaluation report by LMETB in December 2021. This report will comprise a reflective and critical evaluation with input from the members of the LMETB community, including learners, staff at all levels of the organisation and external stakeholders. Data from learner and staff surveys has already been collected in the summer term of 2021. Stakeholder surveys are currently being conducted. The self-evaluation report will outline how LMETB effectively assures and enhances the quality of its teaching, learning and service activities to support the achievement of its strategic goals.
2. Appointment by QQI of an external, independent expert team of peer reviewers who will carry out:
 - a. an external assessment of the self-evaluation report and related material
 - b. Engagement with key staff, learners and external stakeholders to explore and gather evidence about Quality Assurance in LMETB. This will be done via focused meetings and interviews with staff, learners and external stakeholders across all of FET in LMETB. This engagement will take place from 21st-25th March 2022.
3. Production and publication of a report by the review team, outlining findings and recommendations; and a follow-up procedure to review actions taken by LMETB.

CRITERIA

The criteria against which the Inaugural review findings will be compared are LMETB's own mission and strategy, QQI Quality Assurance Guidelines and other relevant QQI policies and relevant European guidelines and practice on quality and Quality Assurance.

OUTCOMES

A key intended outcome of the review is the stimulation of discourse on quality within LMETB through critical analysis and meaningful discussion. This will be reflected in the published self-evaluation report and carried through into discussions with the review team and follow-up.

The external review team will provide a draft review report in respect of LMETB to QQI. The report of the review team will set out its findings in relation to each of the objectives of the Quality Assurance review. It will also provide a general statement regarding the effectiveness of the Quality Assurance procedures in LMETB and their implementation. LMETB will be given a formal opportunity within the post-review timeline to check the factual accuracy

of the review report and will be invited to provide a formal response to the review report. The report and response will be approved by QQI and published.

Following publication of the individual report, LMETB will prepare and publish an action plan addressing the recommendations of the review report. The action plan will be followed up on by QQI within one year as part of routine monitoring processes.

In addition to each individual ETB review, a sectoral report team will be established which will provide reflections and observations at a sectoral level on quality assurance developments, challenges and opportunities. This report team will produce a separate sectoral report.

If you require further information on LMETB's participation in the Inaugural Review of Quality Assurance, please email qualityassurance@lmetb.ie