Tertiary Quality Steering Group: remit and membership

Vision

1. Scotland's Tertiary Quality Enhancement Framework (TQEF) has been developed to deliver the shared vision between SFC, institutions, and partner agencies for a more coherent and streamlined tertiary education system that delivers the best learning experience for students.

Purpose

2. To provide strategic advice and guidance to SFC on the implementation, evaluation, and ongoing development of the TQEF.

3. To ensure relevant stakeholder groups (sector principals, students, institutions and strategic partners) and other experts have line of sight of, and are able to exercise meaningful and appropriate influence over, the development of quality assurance and enhancement arrangements through this group.

4. To act as a channel for conveying sector views on the development, implementation, and evaluation of the TQEF direct to the SFC executive.

5. To provide specialist, creative, and practical advice throughout the implementation of the TQEF. Individuals, as members of the group, will therefore not represent their own organisation but will draw on their knowledge, expertise and experience of the sector.

Remit

6. Provide expert advice and guidance on the continued development, oversight and evaluation of the TQEF to ensure that all fundable FE and HE provision provides a high-quality learning and teaching experience for students, while taking into account the requirements of the European Standards and Guidelines.

7. Assist SFC in identifying issues that are fundamental or that have primacy to the ongoing development and evaluation of the TQEF.

8. Consider how this work connects and impacts the other aspects of SFC's Outcomes Framework (OF) and Assurance Model (AM) and assist SFC in ensuring coherence and effectiveness of the OF and AM as a whole.

9. Proactively support collaboration and understanding between the sectors to strengthen the development of an effective tertiary education system to deliver enhanced outcomes for students.

10. Develop the TQEF to support the assurance and enhancement of different modes and types of provision e.g. work-based learning and micro credentials, and transitions for learners across and within our system of provision.

11. Support continued efforts to streamline quality assurance and enhancement arrangements and reduced burden on institutions and students.

12. Support decision-making and help shape positions that will enable SFC to share papers and bring material into other forums and relevant SFC decision-making committees or the Scottish Government, as appropriate.

Meeting protocol

13. The Group will meet around four times during the implementation year (AY2024-25) and as required thereafter, e.g. to support the evaluation and review of the Framework. Advice and guidance may also be sought by correspondence, or sub-groups convened, where advice is required during a limited time period.

14. Individual group members may also be asked to act as critical friends outside the whole group format on aspects of the TQEF where they have expertise.

15. The SFC executive will indicate at each meeting those papers that can be shared with colleagues in members' institutions and networks.

16. The SFC executive will publish a bulletin after each meeting of the TQSG summarising key issues and outcomes from the discussion. The bulletin does not replace the minute as the official note of the meeting.

Governance, structure and ways of working

17. The group will be chaired by SFC Director of Access, Learning and Outcomes and will be co-chaired by a representative of the college and the university sectors and the president of NUS Scotland as outlined below. Support and secretariat will be provided by SFC.

18. SFC may share sensitive information within the working group and request that such information/papers and the content of discussions be treated confidentially.

Membership

19. The group is drawn from students and colleagues across the Scottish college and university sectors who have significant experience of leading, supporting, or implementing quality enhancement and assurance strategies, structures, and pedagogy. SFC will seek advice from the appropriate sector representative groups in renewing the membership of the group.

20. Individuals, as members of the group, will not represent their own organisation but will draw on their knowledge, expertise and experience of the sector.

21. Representatives of SFC's partner delivery agencies (CDN, ES, QAA and sparqs) have observer status on the TQSG and may be asked to periodically update the group on aspects of the TQEF. Nevertheless, observers are expected to fully participate in all TQSG discussions and help shape the group's advice and guidance to SFC.

Last reviewed: September 2024

Steering Group membership (from September 2024)

Dr Jacqui Brasted (Chair)
Director (Interim), Access, Learning and Outcomes, SFC

Prof Moira Fischbacher-Smith (Co-Chair)
Vice Principal, Learning and Teaching, University of Glasgow

Simon Hewitt (Co-Chair)
Principal, Dundee and Angus College, and Chair College VP Network

Sai Shraddha Suresh Viswanathan (Co-Chair)
President, NUS Scotland

Dr Kyrsten Black
Registrar, Scotland's Rural College

Dr Claire Carney
Vice Principal Student Experience, City of Glasgow College

Dr Kirsty Conlon
Head of Learning and Teaching, Universities Scotland

Douglas Dickson
Depute Principal, Dumfries and Galloway College

Simon Earp
Vice Principal, People, Performance, and Improvement, West Lothian College

Prof Brian Green
Deputy Associate Principal, Learning and Teaching, University of Strathclyde, and Chair of QASHE (Quality Arrangements in Scottish Higher Education)

Prof Tina Harrison
Deputy Vice Principal Students (Enhancement), University of Edinburgh

Ann Heron
Head of Quality Enhancement, Ayrshire College, and Chair College Quality Network

Prof Lynn Kilbride
Vice Principal Academic Development & Student Experience, Robert Gordon University

Gavin Lee
Director of Strategic Planning and Development, University of the West of Scotland

Holly McAdams
Vice President Academic, Heriot-Watt University Students' Union

Robin McGregor
Vice Principal, Curriculum and Quality, North-East Scotland College

James McKean
Policy Officer, Colleges Scotland

Cathy MacNab
Assistant Principal, Performance and Skills, West College Scotland

Prof Clare Peddie
Vice-Principal, Education (Proctor), University of St. Andrews

Katrina Swanton
Head of Quality and Enhancement, Edinburgh Napier University, and Convener of The Quality Forum

College Student representative TBC

Eve Lewis (Observer)
Director, sparqs

Alastair Duthie (Observer)
Head of Scotland, The Quality Assurance Agency

Joe Mulholland (Observer)
HM Inspector, Head of Scrutiny, Education Scotland

Victoria Underwood (Observer)
Director of Operations and Strategic Planning, College Development Network