

Finding Common Ground

Promoting closer engagement between the QA agency and Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies (PSRBs)

2023

- 36 organisations have endorsed the principles
- Not all in a position to endorse but engage in Common Ground Programme
- Pilot initiatives of joint professional and academic accreditation processes emerging



QQI

Accreditation Principles



Objectives

- Agreed expectations
- Role of accreditation
- Support elimination of duplication between academic QA and PSRB accreditation
- Not binding

2021

Accreditation Principles

QQI drafted a set of principles based on Professions Australia and Universities Australia Joint Statement of Principles for Professional Accreditation https://www.qqi.ie/sites/default/files/2022-02/principles-for-accreditation-and-other-professional-engagements_0.pdf



Matters of common interest

- Reporting processes
- Accreditation standards and criteria
- Implementation of online accreditation processes (Covid-19)
- Other relevant statutory and regulatory QQI processes

2019

Finding Common Ground Programme

QQI established the Finding Common Ground Programme with the PSRBs



Opportunity!

QQI saw an opportunity to facilitate a forum for PSRBs to come together with QQI, and HEIs

Discussions with PSRBs

- Exploring the potential for eliminating any unnecessary burden of administrative burden of accreditation
- Explore solutions to common challenges with QQI



Report on accreditation processes

Report on accreditation process of 11 PSRBs

[Accreditation Approval of Higher Education Programmes by Professional Bodies.pdf \(qqi.ie\)](#)

The PARN Report

PARN Report

- Scale of accreditation is large
- Can be complicated and difficult for HEIs
- Challenges in managing accreditation & academic QA

<https://www.qqi.ie/sites/default/files/media/file/uploads/Professional%20Body%20Accreditation%20in%20Higher%20Education%20Institution%20in%20Ireland%20September%202017.pdf>



Establishing the Landscape

QQI-commissioned reports on professional body accreditation in Irish Higher Education Institutions