

Report from the Quality Assessment Committee

Issue

1. The board is kept informed of the work of its Quality Assessment Committee (QAC) by receiving a report on the outcomes of each meeting. The attached report summarises the outcomes of the QAC meeting held on 10 February 2021. This report will be supplemented by an oral report given by the chair of the committee.

Recommendations

2. The board is invited to note the report of the Quality Assessment Committee.

Further information

3. Available from Simon Levine.

Quality Assessment Committee report

February 2021

Quality and standards throughout the pandemic

1. The committee received a paper which provided a brief summary of the OfS's targeted engagement with providers and students on quality and standards matters throughout the pandemic. The OfS has focused on reducing burden on providers to enable them to focus on delivering high quality education, while ensuring that it receives the information that it needs to regulate.
2. The committee wished to formally recognise the work of the OfS, providers and student unions for the way in which they have responded to exceptionally difficult circumstances caused by the pandemic.

Response to the quality consultation

3. The committee received a presentation setting out key themes emerging from early analysis of the OfS's consultation on regulating quality and standards in higher education.

DQB strategic direction

4. Exempt from publication
5. Exempt from publication
 - a. Exempt from publication
 - b. Exempt from publication
 - c. Exempt from publication

Update on DQB progress with the review of QSR

6. The committee received a paper updating on the DQB's progress with its work to update the approach to Quality and Standards Review following its project to re-write review reports and the lessons learned exercise.
7. The committee agreed with the recommendation that work on the revised review method be suspended and that when work is resumed on future methods of assessment a formal project structure is used.

Update on the review of the DQB KPMs

8. The committee received a paper detailing progress made with updating of the KPMs used to measure the QAA's performance in its role as the DQB.
9. The committee noted that the QAA had commented on the version of the KPMs that the QAC considered at its December 2020 meeting. Its feedback focused on requesting more clarity on how decisions would be made in relation to the KPMs what the criteria for success were. The QAA received this latest version at the same time as the QAC so no further comments have been received yet.

Structure of QAA's third annual report on its work as the DQB

10. The committee received a paper with updates on the QAA's proposals for the structure of its next annual report on its work as the DQB.

Future committee meetings

11. The next meeting will take place on 20 May 2021.