

QIP implementation summary report

Unit: National Council for Exercise and Fitness

Head of Unit: Damien Jackson

(responsible for QIP implementation)

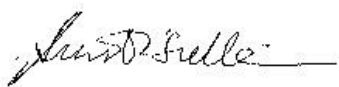
1. Date on which QIP received from QSU: **7th December 2020**
2. Date on which unit met to discuss and ratify the QIP: **8th December 2020**
3. Date on which interim self-assessment of progress on level 1 recommendations (sections 5 and 6 in table) was returned to QSU: **21st October 2021**
4. Date on which QIP progress was presented to the Quality Committee: **3rd November 2021**
5. Date on which implementation review meeting with DQ and Provost & Deputy President was held: **4th December 2023**

Summary status of recommendation implementation:

Rec no. (level)	Recommendation	Closed	Open	Commentary
1 (1)	Undertake consultation with UL prior to the confirmation of the next NCEF strategic plan, to ensure that the decisions made in that plan will be supported by UL's resources including physical estates and quality assurance systems.	√		The Memorandum of Agreement was finalised on 30/08/2021
2 (1)	Confirm and document, in collaboration with UL, how all learners on programmes offered by the NCEF and leading to UL awards will be protected in the event of the NCEF being unable to deliver or complete the delivery of those programmes.	√		As part of MOA, Learner protection insurance in place since AY2021/22
3 (1)	Seek a change in title of the Diploma qualification to the major award at Level 7 on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) to ensure that the qualification of NCEF learners is understood and recognised nationally and internationally.		√	Escalate to University awards framework
4 (1)	Identify, with UL, the points at which the NCEF should provide assurances to the UL governance system regarding provision that is taking place through certified providers and leading to UL awards.	√		QA protocols are in place to monitor and assist provision through

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				certified providers
5 (1)	In conjunction with UL, develop a specific staffing strategy for the NCEF that addresses key issues including: * Leadership succession planning * Creating capacity for greater delegation of operational roles by directors * Addressing the changing staff requirements due to the changing portfolio of courses * Continuing professional development for staff, particularly aiming to increase the number of staff with higher-level qualifications.	√		
6 (1)	Implement a clearer academic and corporate governance structure for the NCEF, which includes: * A more direct role for the Board of Trustees * Clarification of the role of UL in academic governance * Strengthened links with the Irish exercise and fitness industry.	√		
7 (1)	Develop a long-term sustainability plan with certified providers to ensure sustainability and relevance in the market	√		
8 (1)	Provide a forum for engagement with stakeholders, such as certified providers and EuropeActive, to assist the NCEF in its future development	√		
9 (2)	Ensure that HR procedures for appointing staff and external examiners are aligned with best practice within UL	√		
10 (2)	Encourage tutors to achieve higher qualifications.	√		
11 (2)	Develop a strategy to improve students' evaluation report response rate	√		
12 (2)	Develop an NCEF alumni association	√		
13 (2)	Liaise with the UL induction team/First Seven Weeks initiative to enable students on stepped routes to be fully integrated in the UL induction process	√		
14 (2)	Formalise engagement between NCEF students and the UL Cooperative Education	√		

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	& Careers Division (CECD) to provide students with additional guidance on career development.			
15 (2)	Work with PESS/UL central booking to allow NCEF practical sessions to be conducted where practicable in appropriate facilities within the PESS Building in preference to the main hall in the UL Arena.	√		
16 (2)	Develop strategies within practical modules to assist graduates with future-proofing their fitness business, for example by embedding within exercise modules ways of engaging customers and monetising their services in an online capacity.	√		
17 (2)	Seek early engagement with potential Co-op placement providers to secure high-quality work placements for the new LM105 cohort.	√		
18 (2)	Encourage non-CAO entrants to seek a range of work experiences across vocational as well as broader public health, management and business settings.	√		
19 (2)	Seek guidance from future employers and feedback from existing students and graduates on the modules offered, and use this feedback to review and update module content	√		
20 (2)	Liaise with UL administrative and finance departments to rectify the delays regarding Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI) grants	√		



Director of Quality

5th December 2023

Date