

GLASGOW KELVIN COLLEGE

Learning and Teaching Committee – 19 November 2025

Preparation for Tertiary Quality Enhancement Review

Report by Vice Principal Curriculum and Quality

1. Introduction

This paper updates members on preparations being made in advance of our external review by the Qualifications Assurance Agency (QAA) due in the 2026/27 academic year.

2. External Review by the Qualifications Assurance Agency

All colleges and universities in Scotland are due to be subject to a Tertiary Quality Enhancement Review (TQER) between 2024-25 and 2030-31. The TQER is an external, peer-led and review method developed by QAA for Scotland's tertiary sector. A short guide to TQER is detailed in Appendix 1 for information with more detailed information available at: https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaas/reviewing-he-in-scotland/tqer-guide-for-institutions.pdf?sfvrsn=ea49bc81_7

Glasgow Kelvin College has been informed that it will be reviewed in the 2026-27 academic year on the following dates:

- 26th October 2026: Initial Review Visit
- 7th December 2026: Main Review Visit

In advance of these dates, there will be a scoping meeting eight months before the review (likely in March 2026). The College is also required to submit a Strategic Impact Analysis and Advance Information Set by the 17th August 2026.

In terms of preparatory work, the following activities are currently being focussed on:

- Reviewing TQER requirements through a newly formed TQER Steering Group. This group will oversee the College's approach to preparation for TQER and includes representation from Senior Managers and Students Association members. Alongside monitoring preparation through an activity timeline, it will play a key role in developing the College's Strategic Impact Analysis and Advance Information Set. To date, we have considered the guidance on how the review team will assess the College in relation to the Tertiary Quality Enhancement Framework (TQEF) and drafted a set of actions to strengthen our evidence base in relation to this. We have also begun to consider the requirements of the Strategic Impact Analysis and Advance Information Set and identify any potential areas we need to develop in advance.

Members of the Steering group will attend a QAA sector briefing for institutions to be reviewed on the 20th and 27th November.

- Building up staff knowledge in relation to the TQER. To date this has focussed primarily on establishing the TQER Steering Group and member's understanding of the process and likely requirements. Additionally, we are planning sessions for all Faculty members focussing on developing their knowledge of the TQEF at the end of the first teaching block in November. These mandatory sessions will include presentation from the

Scottish Funding Council on the development of national quality arrangements, alongside opportunities for staff to discuss and explore the elements of the TQEF.

- College staff also met with colleagues from Forth Valley College who were reviewed in the last academic year. The meeting provided an opportunity to hear first hand their experiences and to consider how they approached their preparation.

Additionally, the College is also in the final stages of preparing for its first Institution Led Quality Review (ILQR) activity. In the first week of December, we will undertake an ILQR of Healthcare, Social Care and Childcare, including with external peer reviewers. Whilst not directly part of TQER preparations, the ILQR will form a key element of the College's evidence base during the review activity.

Further updates on preparatory work will be provided at future meetings of the Committee.

3. Resource Implications

There are no direct resource implications arising directly from this report.

4. Impact on Students

The TQER review process is focussed on improving student outcomes and experiences.

5. Equalities

There are no direct equality implications arising directly from this report.

6. Risk and Assurance

This report provides assurance that the College is effectively preparing for external review.

7. Data Protection

There are no data protection implications arising directly from this report.

8. Recommendations

Members are recommended to:

- i. note the TQER guidance and the College activity to prepare for review, at Appendix 1: and
- ii. note that further updates on preparatory activity will be provided at future meetings of the Committee.

9. Further Information

Members can obtain additional information on the contents of this report from Robin Ashton, Vice Principal Curriculum and Quality Enhancement.

Glasgow Kelvin College

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03/11/2025