



## *Awards Plan: Update June 2011*

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## 1. Context

The Awards Plan is a management and communications tool which provides for and schedules (i) the migration of existing award standards and (ii) the development of new award areas to the Common Awards System (CAS).

## 2. Progress

The aim of migration project is to migrate existing awards into the Common Award system. In the process some awards will be harmonised, others will be deactivated. At the beginning of the project in Summer 2008 there were 304 Major awards, 160 Special purpose awards and 5 Supplemental awards to be migrated. These figures have been refined recently and **Appendix 1** outlines the targets, actual completion rates to date and timelines for migration .

Further detail is available by level and also by field of learning. The range of activity by level is outlined in **Appendix 2** and by field of learning in **Appendix 3**.

New award development is also taking place, details of current and planned activity are outlined in **Appendix 4**.

FETAC is committed to completing the migration project on schedule. Partnership with the former awarding bodies and others such as the IVEA and Skillnets is key. The executive will continue to review and refine the process to improve effectiveness and efficiencies.

## Appendix 1

Breakdown by Award Type	Total Project Target <sup>1</sup>	Actual <sup>2</sup>	% <sup>3</sup>	Actual 2009	Actual 2010	Actual 2011 to date	December 2011
<b>Major</b>							
FÁILTE	34	34	100.0%	27	4	3	
FÁS	81 <sup>4</sup>	48	59.2%	6	25	17	33
NCEA	1	1	100.0%			1	
NCVA	136	96	69.8%	4	78	14	40
TEAGASC	20	11	55.0%	1	2	8	9
<b>SubTotal</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>69.8%</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>Special Purpose</b>							
FÁILTE	34	30	88.2%	24	6		4
FÁS	92	55	59.7%	1	34	20	37
TEAGASC	34	26	76.5%	12	13	1	8
<b>SubTotal</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>69.3%</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Supplemental</b>							
FÁS	5	2	40.0%	0	2		3
<b>SubTotal</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>40.0%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>69.3%</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>134<sup>5</sup></b>

Breakdown by Level	Total Project Target <sup>1</sup>	Actual <sup>2</sup>	% <sup>3</sup>	Actual 2009	Actual 2010	Actual 2011 to date	December 2011
Level 3	9	9	100.0%	7	2		
Level 4	43	29	67.4%	5	18	6	14
Level 5	208	142	68.3%	14	98	30	66
Level 6	177 <sup>4</sup>	123	69.4%	49	46	28	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>69.3%</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>134<sup>5</sup></b>

<sup>1</sup> The migration project commenced in June 2008 and is due to be completed by December 2011

<sup>2</sup> Actual cumulative awards completed to May 2011 (including number rationalised and deactivated)

<sup>3</sup> % of the target completed to May 2011

<sup>4</sup> The Advanced Certificate – Craft awards (31) have been removed from the major award total pending the Dept. of Education and Skills review of apprenticeship

<sup>5</sup> 16 awards are not currently being certified hence will be deactivated at end of 2011. Approximately 20 awards are currently in the process of being harmonized

## Appendix 2: Progress by Level

### Level 4

- 1 new major award in Sports and Recreation has been presented to the June Standards Advisory Board (SAB). It will be published in Autumn 2011.
- Work continues on finalising the migration of awards at level 4 and is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2011.

### Level 5

- 1 major award in Sport and Recreation has been converted and presented to the June SAB.
- Work continues on finalising the migration of awards at level 5 and is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2011. The Level 5 Outdoor Recreation will be published for consultation in the coming weeks. Publication of these awards will be spread between Spring 2012 and Autumn 2012.

### Level 6

- Work continues on finalising the migration of awards at level 6 and is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2011. Publication of these awards will be spread between Autumn 2011, Spring 2012 and Autumn 2012
- Level 6 Business Awards will be published for consultation in June and are scheduled to be complete by Autumn 2011.
- The Horticulture standards group is finalising drafts of major awards in Horticulture and Golf and Sports Surfaces Management and these are likely to go for consultation in late July.

## **Appendix 3: Progress by field of learning**

### **Migration**

#### Sport, Recreation and Coaching

- The Standards Group in Sport, Recreation and Coaching met in May; following a review of feedback from the consultation process the Group agreed two major awards for recommendation to the Standards Advisory Board. The group is scheduled to meet in July when it is planned to review draft structures for two major awards at Level 6 and to agree the Level 5 Major award in Outdoor Recreation for consultation.

#### Hairdressing

- The standards group met in April and drafted a structure for the level 5 major award in hairdressing. The group is due to meet again in July with a view to public consultation on the award in July/August

#### Equitation

- The Equine Standards Group met in late April and drafted structures for major awards at Level 4, 5 and 6. The group will meet again in mid June to progress these with a view to public consultation on the web in late June/July.

#### Business Awards

- The Business Standards Group met in April to review the Level 6 Business Awards. These awards are being finalised for public consultation.

#### Retail

- Work on the Level 6 Retail Management award is ongoing and it will be published for consultation in April or May.

#### Horticulture

- The Standards Development Group is now working on final drafts of level 6 Horticulture and Golf and Sports Surfaces Management and these are likely to go for consultation in July.

## **New Award Development**

### Green/Renewable Technology Sector

- The Sector Needs Analysis Report was published for consultation in March. Feedback on the report is under review and a plan including resource requirements for implementation of recommendations is being finalised with a view to completing by the Autumn 2011. This essentially involves the review of Level 5 Construction Technology and Level 6 Maintenance Skills Technology major awards with potential development of some new minor awards. Draft specifications will be prepared for review by two separate Standards Groups representing key stakeholders from within the Green technology sector.

### Body, Beauty and Therapy

- Draft award structures and mandatory components for new Level 5 and Level 6 major awards in Body and Beauty Therapy are being finalised and will be published for consultation in June. As these are two new major awards which will be of significant interest to a range of providers across the sector the Standards Development Groups wishes to extend the consultation period to mid September to facilitate all providers in contributing in full to the consultation process.

### Music

- The inaugural meeting of the Standards Development Group was held in May; a second meeting is scheduled for mid June at which FETAC will brief the group on the Common Awards System and the Credit Accumulation and Transfer System. The group has also requested a briefing on ECVET and the comparison with ECTS. An SME has been assigned by the group to complete a Sector Needs Analysis in consultation with key stakeholders over the coming months; it is planned that this would be complete by Autumn 2011.

### Commercial Gas

- A level 6 special purpose award in Commercial Gas Safety has been developed by a standards development group led by the Commission for Energy Regulation. It was due to go for public consultation in late April, however further meetings are to be held with the SDG to finalise the assessment requirements. It is envisaged that public consultation will take place in the summer and with the award being submitted to the Standards Advisory Board in August 2011

### Drama

- A Standards Development Group to develop a new Level 6 major award in Drama has been established by Artstrain with representation from other stakeholders in the sector. The inaugural meeting of the group was held in April 2011 and the development for this new award has commenced.

### Business/Quality Systems and Standards

- A Standards Development Group was established in 2010 by National Standards Authority (NSAI) to develop new special purpose awards in Business Systems and Standards. A draft Sector Needs Analysis has now been complete and is to be reviewed by the group at its meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> May. The Sector Needs Analysis currently identifies

two new Level 6 Special Purpose Awards for development. It is presented to the Board for information. Once agreed by the SDG it is planned that development would commence on drafting the award specifications with a view to finalising these for public consultation in the Autumn.

## Appendix 4: Standards Development Groups

SDG	Lead Body	Awards	Status
Horticulture	Teagasc Pat Leonard [pat.leonard@teagasc.ie]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Migration of 8 major awards and 1 special purpose award across levels 4, 5 and 6</li> </ul>	In development –
Training & Development	Irish Institute of Training & Development Sinead Heneghan [sinead@iitd.com]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advanced Certificate Training &amp; Development</li> <li>Level 6 Specific Purpose Certificate Train the Trainer</li> </ul>	In development
Life Coaching	Irish Coaching Network Kieran O'Connor [koconnor@icdn.ie]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advanced Certificate Life Coaching</li> </ul>	In development
Information Advice & Advocacy	Citizens Information Board Geraldine Cullen [geraldine.cullen@ciboard.ie]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advanced Certificate in Information Advice and Advocacy</li> </ul>	In development
Gas Installation	Commission for Energy Regulation Karen Trant [ktrant@cer.ie]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Level 6 Specific Purpose Certificate in Gas Installation Non Domestic</li> </ul>	In development
Body and Beauty Therapy	Dun Laoghaire VEC Deirdre Hanamy [dhanamy@scd.ie]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level 5 Certificate in Body and Beauty Therapy</li> <li>Advanced Certificate in Body and Beauty Therapy</li> </ul>	Being finalised for public consultation
Anatomy & Pathology Technician Skills	HSE Caroline O'Regan [carolinem.oregan@mailw.hse.ie]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level 6 Special Purpose Award - Anatomy and Pathology Technician Skills</li> </ul>	On Hold
Handling Animal Remedies	Irish Agriculture Supply Industry Standards (IASIS) (in partnership with Department of Agriculture) Ann Williams [ann@apha.ie]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level 6 Specific Purpose Certificate in Handling of Animal Medicine and Remedies</li> </ul>	In development
Pesticide Distribution	Irish Agriculture Supply Industry Standards (IASIS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level 5 Special Purpose Award in Pesticide Distribution</li> <li>Level 6 Special Purpose Certificate in Crop Protection</li> </ul>	Presented to April SAB
Business Systems and Standards	National Standards Authority of Ireland Kieran Cox (Kieran.cox@nsai.ie)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level 6 Special Purpose Certificate in Implementation of Business Systems</li> </ul>	In development

<b>SDG</b>	<b>Lead Body</b>	<b>Awards</b>	<b>Status</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level 6 Special Purpose Certificate in Business Systems Auditing (draft titles)</li> </ul>	
Drama	Artstrain  John Taite john@nayd.ie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level 6 Certificate in Drama</li> </ul>	Commenced
Music	Consortium of Music Conservatories: Cork School of Music, DIT & Royal Irish Academy  Geoffrey Spratt Geoffrey.Spratt@cit.ie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TBA Scoping NFQ Levels 1 - 6</li> </ul>	Commenced