

1.	<b>Title of Programme(s):</b> (incl. Award Type and Specify Embedded Exit Awards)	Higher Diploma in Engineering in Civil Engineering
2.	<b>NFQ Level(s)/ No. ECTS:</b>	8 60
3.	<b>Duration:</b>	1
4.	<b>ISCED Code:</b>	0732
5.	<b>School / Centre:</b>	School of Engineering
6.	<b>Department:</b>	Department of Building and Civil Engineering
7.	<b>Type of Review:</b>	New Programme
8.	<b>Date of Review:</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> June 2020
9.	<b>Delivery Mode:</b>	Blended
10.	<b>Panel Members:</b>	Dr David Denieffe, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Registrar, IT Carlow (Chair) Dr Clare McTigue, Research Fellow, Edinburgh Napier University Dr Derek Sinnott, Senior Lecturer, Department of the Built Environment, Waterford Institute of Technology Mr Michael McDonnell, Operations Director Building & Infrastructure, Tobin Consulting Engineers Ms Carmel Brennan, Assistant Registrar (Quality), GMIT (Secretary)
11.	<b>Proposing Staff:</b>	Mr Gerard MacMichael Ms Mary Rogers Mr John Hanahoe Mr Shane Newell Mr Mark Kelly Ms Irene Hayden Dr Wayne Gibbons Mr James McHale, RPS Group  Present in an observing capacity: Mr Damien Owens, Engineers Ireland
12.	<b>Programme Rationale:</b>	Engineers Ireland (EI) is the professional body for engineers in Ireland, with over 25,000 members from every discipline of engineering. A registered professional title from Engineers Ireland provides peer reviewed and internationally recognised formal recognition of professional competence. It is an accolade associated with the very best of the

		<p>engineering profession and is a requirement for senior engineering project leaders in industry. The proposed programme seeks to provide graduates from the current GMIT level 8 BEng in Civil Engineering with a shorter and better defined route to the registered professional title of Chartered Engineer (CEng). The proposed programme has a strong focus on attributes required by engineers including research, communication, teamwork, ethics in addition to application of engineering, engineering problem solving and design skills. The programme is a work-based learning programme.</p>
13.	<b>Potential Demand for Entry:</b>	<p>A survey of graduates suggests positive demand for the programme. In addition, employers in the region are supportive of the programme and of their staff undertaking it.</p>
14.	<b>Stakeholder Engagement:</b>	<p>There has been extensive engagement with Engineers Ireland, key employers, graduates and current students in relation to the need for the programme and the most appropriate structure and content.</p>
15.	<b>Graduate Demand:</b>	<p>Students on this programme will already be working in industry. Completion of this programme will shorten the pathway towards becoming a chartered engineer. The attainment of this status significantly impacts on promotion prospects and earning potential.</p>
16.	<b>Entry Requirements, Access, Transfer &amp; Progression:</b>	<p>Applicants for the programme must have a BEng (Hons) in Civil Engineering.</p> <p>Graduates may apply for cognate Masters programmes.</p>
17.	<b>Programme Structure:</b>	<p>The proposed programme consists of two modules namely Research Skills for Engineers and Professional Civil Engineering Practice.</p> <p>The programme is a work-based learning programme, and the student must be in employment with an employer approved by the GMIT programme team while registered on the programme.</p>
18.	<b>Learning, Teaching &amp; Assessment Strategies:</b>	<p>The pedagogy of this programme has been designed to provide a balance between workshops, online resources, mentoring, work-based learning and self-directed study. A variety of assessment methodologies shall be deployed to ascertain student achievement of learning outcomes.</p>
19.	<b>Resource Implications:</b>	<p>Resources are required for the provision of lecturing/academic mentoring of students. The requirement varies in accordance with the number of students on the programme. This programme will be self-financing.</p>
20.	<b>Synergies with Existing Programmes:</b>	<p>None.</p>

21.	Findings and Recommendations:	<b>General:</b>	
		Having reviewed the programme documentation and engaged with the proposing team the panel are recommending approval of this programme subject to the conditions (5) and recommendations (2) as outlined below.	
		The programme team are to be commended for their engagement with employers and Engineers Ireland as active partners in the development of this programme. Their proactiveness and focus on student need in seeking to resolve an issue which has existed since 2013 was recognised by the panel.	
		<b>Special conditions attaching to approval (if any):</b>	
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review the entry requirements for the programme to include the requirement for those coming from outside GMIT. Provide clarity on what is required of non-GMIT graduates and how non-GMIT awards will be mapped to determine eligibility for entry.</li> <li>2. Review the Programme Learning Outcomes and assessments to ensure that they are aligned.</li> <li>3. Review and clearly articulate the assessment strategies for both modules to provide enhanced clarity for participants.</li> <li>4. Develop a tri-partite agreement (GMIT, employers and students) to clearly define expectations and responsibilities of each party, ensuring that students are appropriately protected.</li> <li>5. Rebalance the credits between modules, ensuring that the 'Research Skills for Engineers' module is given a more appropriate weighting i.e. a minimum of 20 ECTS.</li> </ol>	
		<b>Recommendations of the panel in relation to award sought:</b>	
		6. Articulate clearly the Professional Accreditation pathway so that prospective students and employers can clearly see the route to chartered Engineers Ireland (EI) membership should EI recognise the programme.	
		7. Remove the conference paper requirement in the 'Research Skills for Engineers' module and instead focus on and internal symposium and poster.	
22.	FAO: Academic Council:	<b>Approved:</b>	
		<b>Approved subject to recommended changes:</b>	X
		<b>Not approved at this time:</b>	
	<b>Signed:</b>		
		<b>Chair</b>	<b>Secretary</b>