

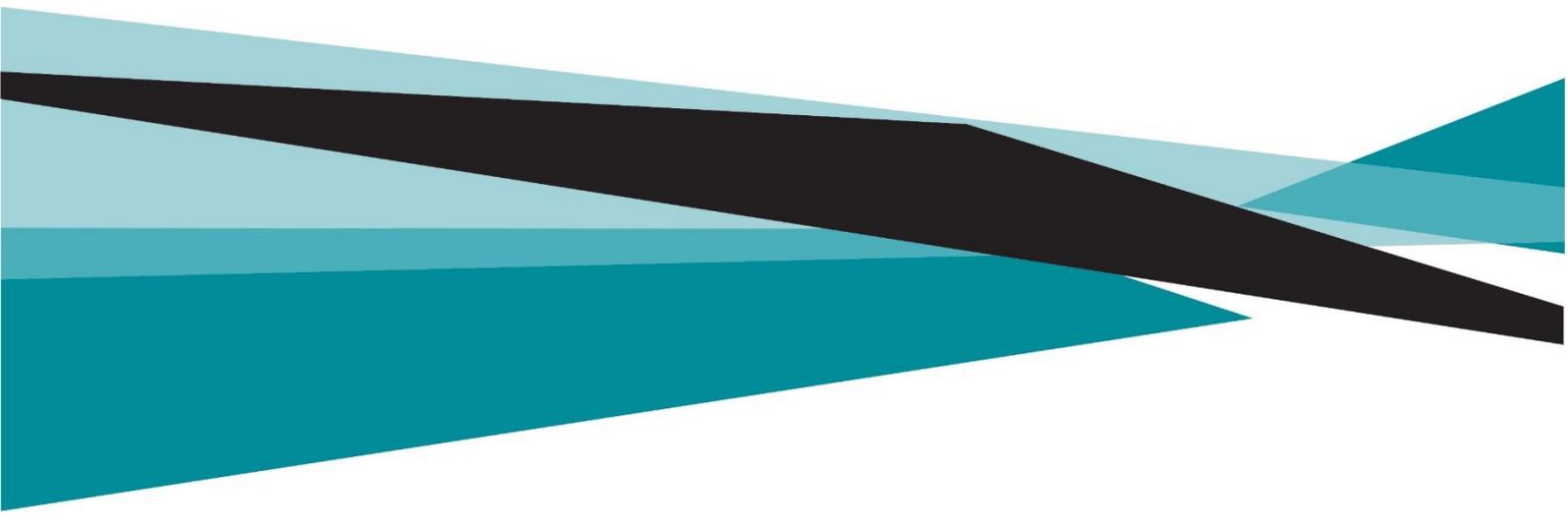


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Institiúid Teicneolaíochta Leitir Ceanainn
Letterkenny Institute of Technology

PRINCIPLES OF QUALITY OF SERVICE FOR CUSTOMERS AND CLIENTS OF THE INSTITUTE

JUNE 2018





Principles of Quality of Service for Learners, Customers and Clients of the Institute

In their dealings with the public, the Institute will:

Quality Service Standards

Publish a statement setting out the quality of education learners can expect and the level of service the general public and other stakeholders can expect of the organisation.

Equality/Diversity

Ensure the rights to equal treatment, established by equality legislation, and accommodate diversity, so as to contribute to equality for the groups covered by the equality legislation (under the grounds of gender, marital status, family status, sexual orientation, religious belief, age, disability, race and membership of the Traveller Community). Identify and work to eliminate barriers to access to services for people experiencing poverty and social exclusion, and for those facing geographic barriers to services.

Physical Access

Provide clean, accessible public offices that ensure privacy, comply with occupational and safety standards and, as part of this, facilitate access for people with disabilities and others with specific needs.

Information

Take a proactive approach in providing information that is clear, timely and accurate, is available at all points of contact and meets the requirements of people with specific needs. Ensure that the potential offered by Information Technology is fully availed of and that the information available on the Institute's websites follows the guidelines on web publication. Continue the drive for simplification of rules, regulations, forms, information leaflets and procedures.

Timeliness and Courtesy

Deliver quality services with courtesy, sensitivity and the minimum delay, fostering a climate of mutual respect between the Institute and the learner/ stakeholder. Give contact names in all communications to ensure ease of on-going transactions.

Complaints

Maintain a well-publicised, accessible, transparent and simple-to-use system of dealing with complaints about the quality of service provided.

The Institute may be subject to complaints at both the level of the official and the organisation. These may relate to the quality of the service itself or the manner in which the service was delivered. The scope for student or other stakeholder dissatisfaction can be reduced by provision of appropriate information to the student or other stakeholder regarding the available service and training to staff in how to deliver the service.

In setting up systems to deal with student or other stakeholder dissatisfaction, organisations should ensure that all complaints are dealt with objectively in a consistent, open and fair manner.

Some elements to be included in Comments/Complaints systems include:

- information regarding complaints procedures should be freely available to the public at all points of service delivery and should be publicised by organisations;
- complaints procedures should be straightforward and access should be conveniently available to student or other stakeholder and clients at no cost wherever possible;
- all complaints should be directed to, and acknowledged, by a named officer of appropriate grade;
- appropriate training should be provided to all staff dealing with complaints . complaints should be addressed as quickly as possible and the customer should be kept informed of progress;
- complaints procedures should be subjected to regular review; and
- provisions should be made for speedy correction of errors and, where required, the making of appropriate redress to the complainant.

Appeals

Similarly, maintain a formalised, well-publicised, accessible, transparent and simple-to-use system of appeal/review for customers who are dissatisfied with decisions in relation to services.

Consultation and Evaluation

Provide a structured approach to meaningful consultation with, and participation by, the student or other stakeholder in relation to the development, delivery and review of services. Ensure meaningful evaluation of service delivery.

Choice

Provide choice, where feasible, in service delivery including payment methods, location of contact points, opening hours and delivery times. Use available and emerging technologies to ensure maximum access and choice and quality of delivery.

Official Languages Equality

Provide quality services through Irish and/or bilingually and inform student or other stakeholder of their right to choose to be dealt with through one or other of the official languages.

Better Co-ordination

Foster a more co-ordinated and integrated approach to delivery of Institute's services.

Internal Customer

Ensure that employees are recognised as internal stakeholders and that they are properly supported and consulted with regard to service delivery issues.



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