18.125 APPROVAL OF NEW OUTCENTRES AND USE OF RECOGNISED TEACHERS

Mrs Alleyne presented Paper No ASQEC/18/37 which noted the range and extent of existing outcentres and reviewed current approval arrangements and proposed some changes. The paper also considered the question of the use of staff in outcentres in teaching and assessment, about which the June 2018 meeting had asked Quality Enhancement to advise (min 18.49 refers).

Outcentre Approval

The current process required the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), the University’s risk committee, to approve new outcentre locations for the delivery of courses to University students. The proposed changes to the process would require completion of a short questionnaire by the sponsoring Faculty for consideration by the Academic Planning Advisory Group (APAG), rather than a due diligence report to SLT, and subsequent recommendation for approval to Academic Standards and Quality Enhancement Committee. If the Faculty or APAG had concerns, Quality Enhancement would undertake a due diligence exercise for report to SLT.

If the proposed outcentre was in a country where the University had no previous partnerships a commentary would be provided to SLT as part of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education)’s report and SLT would be invited to consider whether the University should proceed to establish an outcentre in that region.

A new outcentre proposal would be submitted to APAG through the existing course revision (new location) CA3 process, accompanied by course costing and the new questionnaire. This would ensure explicit information was provided on the facilities and resources of the proposed outcentre to ensure that University staff and students, and the University’s reputation, were adequately safeguarded. The extent of investigation of proposals referred for a report to SLT would be determined on a case-by-case basis in proportion to the perceived risk.

AGREED that:

1. the revised arrangements for the approval of new outcentres be approved