



Ag Rialáil Gairmithe Sláinte
agus Cúraim Shóisialaigh

Regulating Health +
Social Care Professionals

Public Consultation Report

on the Social Care Workers Registration Board
Approved Qualifications Bye-Law 2023

May 2023

Bord Clárchúcháin na nOibríthe Cúraim Shóisialta
Social Care Workers Registration Board



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Introduction

About the Social Care Workers Registration Board

The Social Care Workers Registration Board has statutory responsibility for: the registration of members of the profession; approval and monitoring of education and training programmes; establishing the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics and standards of performance to which social care workers must adhere; and recognition of qualifications gained outside the State.

About CORU

CORU is responsible for regulating health and social care professions. It comprises the Health and Social Care Professionals Council and the Registration Boards established under the Health and Social Care Professionals Act 2005 (as amended).

CORU's role is to protect the public by promoting high standards of professional conduct, education, training and competence through statutory registration of health and social care professionals.

The designated professions under the Act are clinical biochemists, counsellors, dietitians, dispensing opticians, medical scientists, occupational therapists, optometrists, orthoptists, physiotherapists, podiatrists, psychologists, psychotherapists, radiation therapists, radiographers, social care workers, social workers and speech and language therapists.



The Public Consultation Process

Background

The Social Care Workers Registration Board has prepared a draft Approved Qualifications Bye-Law 2023.

Publicising the Consultation Process

A public consultation on the Social Care Workers Registration Board Approved Qualifications Bye-Law 2023 was held between Tuesday 02 May 2023 and Tuesday 30 May 2023.

A number of channels were used to publicise the consultation process and invite the submission of observations. These included:

- An advertisement was placed in the Irish Times on Thursday 11 May 2023 in both English and Irish. (See appendix 1).
- Information on the consultation along with a link to the online feedback form was hosted on the CORU website. (See appendix 2).
- An online feedback form was developed and a link to this form was included in the public consultation notice on the CORU website. (See appendix 3).
- Social media posts were published on CORU's LinkedIn and Twitter profiles to encourage interested stakeholders to submit their feedback. (See appendix 4)

People were invited to participate in the consultation process in a number of ways:

- They could visit www.coru.ie and choose to complete an online feedback form, to print a copy of the form and post it or email it to CORU.
- They could email submissions to consultation@coru.ie.



Overview of responses to consultation

There were 42 responses to the public consultation however, 28 of these online submissions were incomplete. Only the completed submissions have been included in the table below.

Source	Number of Respondents
Online feedback form	14
Email submission	1
TOTAL	15

Respondents were asked to identify if they were offering feedback on their own behalf or on behalf of an organisation:

Individual	9
Organisation	6

How did respondents hear about this consultation?

Advertisement in a newspaper	1
Article in a publication	0
On www.coru.ie	2
On another website	0
By email	6
Social Media	4

Individuals to be included in this report include:

- Adrian McKenna
- Gina McGurgan
- Charlotte Burke
- SIPTU
- Technological University, Dublin
- Fresh Start Support Services Ltd. New Beginnings Childcare and Residential Services Ltd
- John McCamley
- Seán Ryan



Issues emerging from the consultation process

1. Four respondents had either nothing additional to add or welcomed the progression of the regulation of Social Care Work profession.

Response

No response required by the Board in the consultation report.

2. Three respondents requested that additional qualifications be listed on the Bye-Law, those being
 - Plenty of applied social study courses and social science courses that need to be considered.
 - Bachelor of Social Science (Honours), University College Cork
 - All currently accepted Social Science, Psychology and Applied Social Studies degrees level 8 and above.
 - Degree in Health Social Care and BSc in Health Wellbeing Ulster University, Magee Campus, and remove barriers to enable registration with CORU or NISCC.

Response

The consultation on the draft Approved Qualifications Bye-law lists the qualifications for entry to the register. The programmes leading to those qualifications listed on the draft Bye-Law have been approved by the Board as meeting its Criteria for Education and Training programmes and that its graduates have achieved all Standards of proficiency required for public protection.

The Board has not received an application for programme approval from a provider with a qualification title as listed above.

Normally, holders of qualifications awarded outside the Republic of Ireland who wish to apply for registration must first apply to have their qualification recognised.

3. Two respondents requested that the Board consider:
 - The naming of the Dublin colleges
 - Athlone Institute of Technology is now called Technological University of the Shannon-Midlands campus.

Response

CORU undertook considerable communications with the Institutions to determine the correct title of the awarding bodies and is satisfied that those listed on the



draft Approved Qualifications Bye-Law are accurate. The awarding bodies themselves did not identify issues in the public consultation.

4. Four respondents requested responses to the following queries:
 - The effect of not being qualified or eligible to be added to the register and still hold a Social Care worker position in an organisation.
 - Wish to become a probation officer, however despite having a criminology degree and more than 2 years' experience as a social care worker cannot work in this role as the respondent does not have a qualification that allows registration with CORU.
 - Needs to be a change in the eligibility for CORU registration and provide for the opportunity to work towards eligibility through work experience in social care settings.
 - Provide a list of QQI courses that can be added in conjunction to top up supplement evidence to bridge the gap required.
 - Add CPD, reflective practise, evidence-based practise, regular security checks annually done to ensure public protection and fitness to practise to protect workers also.
 - Identify a clear line between the role of a Social Care Worker and a Social Worker and the demarcation of these roles are clearly defined by CORU and respect by certain agencies operating in the state and directs the organisation/works into a better and safer practice with the people we work directly with and the public in general.

Response

The consultation related to the Social Care Workers Registration Board approved Qualifications Bye-Law, and as such, the above feedback is not related to the making of the Bye-Law itself.

5. Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest submitted comments to ensure that all titles are correctly listed, and that no programmes have been omitted. A list of qualification titles were included in the comments.

Response

The Executive had a telephone conversation with the Dean, Faculty Applied Science & Technology and confirmed that the draft Approved Qualifications Bye-Law includes the qualifications awarded from the existing approved programmes. Therefore, this feedback is not related to the making of the Bye-Law itself.



6. Technological University of Dublin has requested that the qualification title listed with Dublin Institute of Technology be amended on the draft Bye-Law. Due to legacy issues the historic qualification Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Care, Dublin Institute of Technology is incorrect. Although a level 8 programme the award and name recorded on parchments was historically Bachelor of Arts in Social Care. Therefore, the consultation feedback requested that the qualification to be listed is:
 - **Bachelor of Arts in Social Care, Dublin Institute of Technology**

Response

The Executive has reviewed the list of qualifications on the Irish Register of Qualifications and notes that the title of the qualification is listed as Bachelor of Arts in Social Care.

Conclusion

The Board approved the amendment to the qualifications listed on the draft Bye-Law, as requested by TU Dublin.

Acknowledgements

CORU would like to extend its appreciation and thanks to all those that participated in the consultation process.

The Social Care Workers Registration Board at its meeting on 22nd June 2023 reviewed this consultation process report.



Appendix 1: Copy of Advertisement



Ag Rialáil Gairmithe Sláinte agus Cúraim Shóisialaigh
Regulating Health + Social Care Professionals

Comhairliúchán poiblí CORU

Tá tuairimí an phobail, na gairme agus páirtithe leasmhara eile á lorg ag **Bord Clárúcháin na nOibríthe Cúraim Shóisialaigh**, faoin gcomhairliúchán seo a leanas:

- **An Fodhlí um Cháilíochtaí Ceadaithe de chuid Bhord Clárúcháin na nOibríthe Cúraim Shóisialaigh 2023**

Tá faisnéis faoin bpróiseas agus faoin nós imeachta comhairliúcháin, lena n-áirítear téacs an fhodhlí, ar fáil ar **www.coru.ie**

5pm Dé Máirt an 30 Bealtaine 2023 an dáta deiridh chun aighneachtaí a chur isteach.

Ní bhreithneofar aighneachtaí a gheofar i ndiaidh an spriocdháta sin.

Tá CORU freagrach as an bpobal a chosaint trí ghairmithe sláinte agus cúraim shóisialaigh a rialáil.

CORU Public Consultation

The **Social Care Workers Registration Board** seeks the views of members of the public, the profession and other interested parties on the following consultation:

- **Social Care Workers Registration Board Approved Qualifications Bye-Law 2023**

Information on the consultation process and procedure, including the text of the bye-law, is available on **www.coru.ie**

The closing date for submissions is **5pm on Tuesday, 30 May 2023**.

Please note, submissions received after this deadline will not be considered.

CORU is responsible for protecting the public by regulating health and social care professionals.

CORU, Infinity Building, George's Court, George's Lane, Smithfield, Dublin 7, D07 E98Y. T: 01 2933160 E: info@coru.ie W: www.coru.ie



Appendix 2: Notice of Public Consultation on CORU's website

Draft Notice Public Consultation: Social Care Workers Registration Board Approved Qualifications Bye-Law 2023

Background

The Social Care Workers Registration Board is responsible for protecting the public by promoting high standards of professional conduct, education, training and competence through the statutory registration of Social Care Workers.

Details of Bye-Law:

The Registration Board is seeking the views of the public, the relevant profession and other interested parties on the Social Care Workers Registration Board Approved Qualifications Bye-Law 2023.

To read the text of the bye-law, please click on the link below:

[Social Care Workers Registration Board Approved Qualification Bye-law 2023](#)

How to submit your views:

- By completing the online consultation feedback form which can be found for the bye-law by clicking on the corresponding link below:

[*Approved Qualifications Online Consultation Feedback Form*](#)

- By emailing consultation@coru.ie
- In writing to: Public Consultation, CORU, Infinity Building, George's Court, George's Lane, Smithfield, Dublin 7, D07 E98Y

A report outlining the consultation process will be published on www.coru.ie following consideration of all submissions.

Closing Date

The consultation process will close at 5pm on Tuesday, 30 May 2023. Submissions received after this time will not be considered.



Appendix 3: Copy of Online Feedback Form

Social Care Workers Registration Board: Public Consultation on Approved Qualifications Bye-Law 2023

Thank you for taking the time to participate in CORU's consultation process on a bye-law on Approved Qualifications for Social Care Workers.

1. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Care Practice, Atlantic Technological University
2. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Applied Social Care, Atlantic Technological University
3. Bachelor of Arts in Applied Social Care, Atlantic Technological University
4. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Care Practice, Institute of Technology, Sligo
5. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Applied Social Care, Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology
6. Bachelor of Arts in Applied Social Care, Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology
7. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Care, Dundalk Institute of Technology
8. Bachelor of Arts in Social Care, Munster Technological University
9. Bachelor of Arts in Social Care, Institute of Technology, Tralee
10. Honours Bachelor of Arts (Social Care), National University of Ireland, Galway
11. Bachelor of Arts in Applied Social Studies (Professional Social Care), Quality and Qualifications Ireland, delivered by Carlow College, St. Patrick's
12. Bachelor of Arts in Social Care, Quality and Qualifications Ireland, delivered by The Open Training College
13. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Professional Social Care Practice, South East Technological University
14. Bachelor of Arts in Professional Social Care Practice, South East Technological University
15. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Applied Social Studies in Professional Social Care, South East Technological University
16. Bachelor of Arts in Applied Social Studies in Professional Social Care, South East Technological University
17. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Care Practice, South East Technological University
18. Bachelor of Arts in Applied Social Care, South East Technological University
19. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Professional Social Care Practice, Institute of Technology, Carlow
20. Bachelor of Arts in Professional Social Care Practice, Institute of Technology, Carlow



21. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Applied Social Studies in Professional Social Care, Institute of Technology, Carlow
22. Bachelor of Arts in Applied Social Studies in Professional Social Care, Institute of Technology, Carlow
23. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Care Practice, Waterford Institute of Technology
24. Bachelor of Arts in Applied Social Care, Waterford Institute of Technology
25. Bachelor of Arts in Applied Social Studies in Social Care, Technological University Dublin
26. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Applied Social Studies in Social Care, Technological University Dublin
27. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Care, Technological University Dublin
28. Bachelor of Arts in Applied Social Care, Technological University Dublin
29. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Applied Social Care, Technological University Dublin
30. Bachelor of Arts in Applied Social Studies in Social Care, Institute of Technology, Blanchardstown
31. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Applied Social Studies in Social Care, Institute of Technology, Blanchardstown
32. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Care, Dublin Institute of Technology
33. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Care Practice, Institute of Technology, Tallaght
34. Bachelor of Arts in Social Care Practice, Institute of Technology, Tallaght
35. Bachelor of Arts in Applied Social Care, Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest
36. Bachelor of Arts in Applied Social Studies in Social Care, Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest
37. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Care Practice, Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest
38. Bachelor of Arts in Social Care Work, Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest
39. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Care Work, Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest
40. Bachelor of Arts in Applied Social Care, Athlone Institute of Technology
41. Bachelor of Arts in Applied Social Studies in Social Care, Athlone Institute of Technology
42. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Care Practice, Athlone Institute of Technology
43. Bachelor of Arts in Social Care Work, Limerick Institute of Technology
44. Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Care Work, Limerick Institute of Technology



If you have any queries about the consultation process or completing the survey, please contact CORU on 01 2933160 or email consultation@coru.ie. The closing date for receipt of submissions is at 5pm on Tuesday, 30 May 2023. Any submissions received after that time will not be considered. A report on the consultation process will be published on www.coru.ie. We welcome the views of the public and the relevant profession and by participating in this consultation process you are helping to shape how Social Care Workers are regulated.

Yours faithfully,
Ginny Hanrahan
Registrar

Public Consultations, Data Protection and Freedom of Information

This online feedback form is voluntary. By completing it you are agreeing to allow your responses to be analysed by CORU for the purpose of seeking feedback on the Social Care Workers Registration Board's Approved Qualifications Bye-Law 2023. A report on the consultation process will be compiled and will be published on CORU's website shortly after the process is complete.

The information you provide in this online feedback form will be stored in a secure and confidential manner by CORU. It will only be used for the purposes outlined above and it will be maintained as per CORU's record retention policy. CORU uses SurveyMonkey to gather feedback to our public consultations. Full details of how your information is processed via SurveyMonkey is documented in this [privacy policy](#).

Please be advised that submissions made to CORU are subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2014.

***1. Do you agree to the terms above? By selecting Yes you are confirming you consent to providing your answers to the questions in this survey.**

- Yes
- No

Public Consultation Questions

2. Contact details:

You do not need to provide this information but please do if you would like us to provide you with details on the outcome of this consultation process.

Name



Email address

Contact number

3. Are you contributing to this survey in (please tick one)

- A personal capacity?
- On behalf of an organisation?

If on behalf of an organisation, please specify:

4. Please indicate if you would like your name and/or organisation to be kept confidential and excluded from the consultation report.

- Include in consultation report
- Exclude from consultation report

It would be helpful if you could explain if you regard the information you have provided as confidential.

5. Please provide any comments you have on the Social Care Workers Registration Board Approved Qualifications Bye-Law 2023.

6. Is there anything you believe should be added to this bye-law and why?



7. Is there anything you believe should be removed from this bye-law and why?

**8. How did you hear about this consultation?
(Please tick as many that apply)**

- Advertisement in a newspaper
- On www.coru.ie
- By email
- Other (please specify

Other (please specify)

Public Consultation Contact Details

Thank you for participating in this consultation process. Your views will be taken into consideration.

If you have any queries please contact CORU on 01 2933160 or email consultation@coru.ie.



Appendix 4: Copy of Social Media Posts



CORU Ireland ✓
@CORUIreland



The Social Care Workers Registration Board is seeking the views of members of the public, the profession and other interested parties on the **Social Care Workers Registration Board Approved Qualifications Bye-Law 2023**.

Information on the consultation process and procedure, including the text of the bye-law, is available on the CORU website: coru.ie/public-protect

Closing date for submissions is 5pm on Tuesday, 30 May 2023.

CORU's mission is to protect the public by promoting high standards of professional education, conduct, training and competence among CORU registrants.



9:06 AM · May 2, 2023 · 749 Views



 **CORU - Regulating Health + Social Care Professionals** ⋮
5,718 followers
4w

The Social Care Workers Registration Board is seeking the views of members of the public, the profession and other interested parties on the Social Care Workers Registration Board Approved Qualifications Bye-Law 2023.

Information on the consultation process and procedure, including the text of the bye-law, is available on <https://lnkd.in/ehctyR-D>.

Closing date for submissions is 5pm on Tuesday, 30 May 2023.

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CORU
**Public Consultation
Now Open!**

**Social Care Workers
Registration Board
Approved Qualifications
Bye-Law 2023**



Social Care Workers Registration Board Approved Qualifications Draft Bye-Law 2023
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