



Ag Rialáil Gairmithe Sláinte
agus Cúraim Shóisialaigh

Regulating Health +
Social Care Professionals

Public Consultation Report

on the Social Workers Registration Board Approved
Qualifications Bye-Law 2022

March 2022

Bord Clárchúcháin na nOibríthe Sóisialta
Social Workers Registration Board



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Introduction

About the Social Workers Registration Board

The Social Workers Registration Board has statutory responsibility for the registration of members of the professions; approval and monitoring of education and training programmes; establishing the code of professional conduct and ethics and standards of performance to which social workers must adhere to 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 amongst the designated professions.

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 Workers Registration Board Approved Qualifications Bye-Law is being amended to reflect the change in qualification awarding body for the MA in Social Work from Institute of Technology Sligo to Atlantic Technological University.

The following qualification title has been added to the draft Bye-Law:

- **Master of Arts in Social Work, Atlantic Technological University**

Publicising the Consultation Process

A public consultation on the Social Workers Registration Board Approved Qualifications Bye Law 2022 was held between 23 February 2022 and 23 March 2022. 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 newspaper on 25 February 2022. (See appendix 1)
- Information on the consultation 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. An email containing this link was sent to the professional bodies of the professions included in the consultation. (see appendix 3)

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 2 responses to the public consultation.

| Source | Number of Respondents |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Online feedback form | 2 |
| Email submission | 0 |
| TOTAL | 2 |

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

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Individual | 0 |
| Organisation | 2 |

How did respondents hear about this consultation?

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Advertisement in a newspaper | |
| Article in a publication | |
| On www.coru.ie | |
| On another website | |
| By email | 1 |
| Other | 1 |
| <i>No answer given</i> | |

Feedback was received from the following organisations:

- John McCamley on behalf of SIPTU (Allied Health Professionals Sector)
- Hilda Loughran on behalf of IASW (Irish Association of Social Workers)

Issues emerging from the consultation process



There were no issues emerging from the consultation process.

Of the two responses received, the only comment provided was to welcome the establishment of the Atlantic Technological University and the broader development of Technological Universities in third level education provision in Ireland.

Acknowledgements

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



Appendix 1: Copy of Advertisement



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Public Consultation

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

Social Workers Registration Board Approved Qualifications Bye-Law 2022

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, Wednesday 23 March 2022**.

Submissions received after this time and date 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

Public Consultation: Social Workers Registration Board Approved Qualifications Bye-Law 2022

The Social Workers Registration Board has opened a public consultation on an Approved Qualifications Bye-Law 2022.

Background

The Social 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 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 Workers Registration Board Approved Qualifications Bye-Law 2022. This revised bye-law replaces S.I. No. 259 of 2021 to include the qualification:

- Master of Arts in Social Work, Atlantic Technological University

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

[Social Workers Registration Board Approved Qualification Bye Law 2022](#)

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:

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

- By emailing consultation@coru.ie

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, Wednesday 23 March 2022**. Submissions received after this time will not be considered.

Data Protection and Freedom of Information



Please note that submissions made to CORU during our public consultations are subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2014. The information provided to CORU consultations will be stored in a secure and confidential manner by CORU and will only be used for the purposes outlined. It will be deleted in line with our record retention policy. After each public consultation CORU publishes a consultation report on this website that contains a summary of comments received, CORU's response to those, and lists the individual names or organisations that have given their feedback, where those have been provided.



Appendix 3: Copy of Online Feedback Form

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

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

This revised bye-law replaces S.I. No. 259 of 2021 to include the following qualification title awarded by the Atlantic Technological University, as attesting to the standard of proficiency required for registration as a Social Worker on the Social Workers Registration Board Register:

- **Master of Arts in Social Work, Atlantic Technological University**

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 **5pm, Wednesday 23 March 2022**. 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 Workers are regulated.

Yours
Ginny
Registrar

faithfully,
Hanrahan

Public Consultations, Data Protection and Freedom of Information

This survey 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 Approved Qualifications Bye-Law 2022. A report on the survey will be compiled and will be shared with the Social Workers Registration Board and published on www.coru.ie.

The information you provide to this survey 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 the 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. 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

Phone Number

3. Are you contributing to this survey in:

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 draft bye-law on the Approved Qualifications for Social Workers.



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 as 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.