

Chairing a Panel

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Overarching Approach

- “A single monolithic approach to quality standards and quality assurance in higher education is inappropriate”
- “substantial compliance” not “rigid adherence”
- “..taking account of the circumstances in which the Agency is required to operate”
- Process should not stifle diversity and innovation

Key Areas

- Capacity for self-reflection
- Focus on outcomes
- Governance
- Strategy
- System-level thinking/analysis

Key Areas

- Change Agent
- Ability to benchmark own performance
- Perception of self and perception by others
- Organisational capacity

Alerts

- Self-imposed limitation/ceilings
- Activity focus
- Symptoms of isolation
- Cosy Relationships
- Absence of key internal policies and procedures

The Panel

- Clear understanding of standards and guidelines
- Focus on evidence –qualitative and quantitative
- Review undertaken “rigorously, fairly, transparently and consistently”
- Regulatory proportionality
- Reviewing Agency as it is now
- Relationship with Agency under review

Panel Dynamics

- Participation of all members
- Chair- Secretary
- Assigned tasks
- Collect independent views/questions
- Clarity re report outcomes
- Establishing consensus based on evidence and informed judgment

Nuts and Bolts

- Comprehensive recording
- Multiple opportunities for panel to review progress
- Are we asking the right questions?
- Get the final report written quickly!