



15 December, 2017

Fergal Costello
Head of System Development & Performance Management
Higher Education Authority
3 Shelbourne Buildings
Shelbourne Road
Dublin 4
DO4 C2Y6

Dear Fergal,

Re: NUI Galway's Strategic Dialogue Cycle 4: Outcomes

I am writing in response to your recent correspondence outlining the outcome of the fourth cycle of the Strategic Dialogue process for NUI Galway.

I have reviewed the relevant documentation and in particular the minute including assessment findings. I am satisfied that all of the documentation captures accurately the contributions of NUI Galway to this process. As you will be aware, my colleagues have provided substantial responses to the initial reflections from the reviewers and I am satisfied that these responses and clarifications have all been fully captured in the revised Reflections on Performance document. I have made a very small number of minor corrections of a factual nature to this document, which I enclose here. I have also made a small number of factual corrections to the minute of the bilateral meeting held in September.

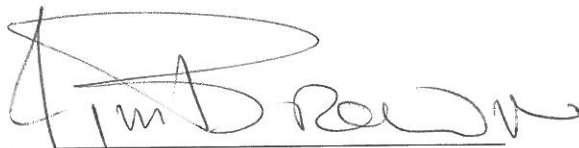
In relation to the documents you intend to publish at the conclusion of this process, I would ask that in addition to the Self-evaluation Report, the Reflections on performance document and the Minutes with assessment findings, that you would also publish the six appendices NUI Galway submitted with its response to reviewers' comments. I have enclosed these appendices here for ease of reference. As the appendices are referred to in your minutes, I think it is important to include them among the published documents, for completeness.

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Overall, notwithstanding the challenges presented by a constrained resource landscape, I am satisfied that NUI Galway has performed well against the targets set out for the three years of the Compact. The Compact process of itself has been a very positive one for NUI Galway and has encouraged a collective focus on and endeavour towards the attainment of prioritised goals, and performance has been enhanced in key areas aligned to *Vision 2020* strategic planning objectives.

Phase two of the Compact will present an opportunity to accelerate performance in targeted areas, towards the attainment of NUI Galway's ambitious vision. I wish you well in developing the next phase of the Strategic Dialogue process and look forward to seeing it rolled out across the sector in due course.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. J. Browne', written over a horizontal line.

James J. Browne, PhD, DSc, MRIA, CEng
Uachtarán – President

c.c. Ms Caroline Loughnane, Academic Secretary

Encs.