



**NATIONAL LICENSING PANEL**  
**“PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS”**: April 2020

**1. INTRODUCTION**

When we’re appointing and reviewing **Licensed Awarding Bodies**, the Quality in Careers Consortium Board has established a small team of expert **National Licensing Panel “Professional Advisers”** to assist the **Quality in Careers Director** by providing professional advice to the national licensing panels.

Working closely with the Quality in Careers Director, our **Professional Advisers**:

- undertake an impartial scrutiny of a potential or an existing Licensed Awarding Body’s application for its licence (whether the initial application or a relicensing) and advise whether to defer or to proceed with convening a national panel;
- produce a preparatory brief for the Director to approve and issue to the panel;
- attend the national panel;
- write the national panel report for the Director to approve and issue to the national panel for confirmation prior to its formal presentation to the Awarding Body;
- undertake annual Continuing Quality Improvement Reviews (CQIRs) with Licensed Awarding Bodies – producing CQIR reports for the Director to approve and issue to the Awarding Body.

**2. OUR TEAM OF PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS**

**(i) ROGER ALLEN**

- Roger is widely experienced in the education and business world, with a strong background in assessment work.
- He was a teacher and deputy head in the secondary sector for 18 years before becoming a Technical & Vocational Education Initiative (TVEI) Regional Adviser, working for the Manpower Services Commission.
- He joined North London TEC as executive director responsible for youth training and education related activities, working closely with the then three Careers Services in the locality.
- He became Director of the Young People’s Unit at the Government Office for the East of England in Cambridge. A major part of this role was to support the development of Connexions Services across the East of England.

- After becoming an independent consultant, Roger acted as an Ofsted Connexions Additional Inspector and produced many reports, including one on referrals between the Connexions Direct helpline and local Connexions services and several on the development of an Integrated Youth Support Service in the London Borough of Barking & Dagenham.
- With an associate Roger developed the Award for Education Business Excellence - the quality mark for education-business links organisations. He became its senior Lead Assessor and carried out over 40 assessments.
- He later served as part of the working group convened by the Careers England 'Quality Task Group' to consider the proposals which led to the initial development of the Quality in Careers Standard in 2012 (which first became national validation of England's locally-developed CEIAG quality awards, prior to replacing these and becoming the single national Quality award in 2017).
- Roger is a highly experienced Professional Adviser for Quality in Careers.

### **(ii) ANTHONY BARNES**

- Anthony is an independent careers education consultant, trainer and materials developer – well known and highly respected nationally in the careers education world.
- He has written extensively on quality assurance in CEIAG and has experience of developing quality award schemes including the Careers Excellence Award that was used by the VT Careers Management Group before 2003.
- Anthony was a local authority inspector for careers education for seven years.
- He wrote a distance learning pack for Ofsted inspectors on how to inspect careers education and guidance. He also took part in school inspections for Ofsted as a team inspector and in Connexions inspections as an additional inspector.
- Anthony was part of the management group for the Government's careers education support programme until 2010.
- He also served as part of the working group convened by the Careers England 'Quality Task Group' to consider the proposals which led to the initial development of the Quality in Careers Standard in 2012.
- Anthony edits the CEGNET website and monthly e-newsletter.
- He also brings his knowledge and skills to work closely with the Quality in Careers Director on key documentation for the national Standard (e.g. as co-writer of the Guide to the Standard, and of the Assessment Guide).
- Anthony is a highly experienced Professional Adviser for Quality in Careers.

### **(iii) CLAIRE NIX**

- Claire is a qualified careers adviser with over 25 years' experience working as a manager, trainer and consultant in the careers education and guidance sector. She has built a strong national reputation.
- Claire is a Fellow of NICEC. She has also served on the Board of the Career

Development Institute.

- Claire was project manager for the Government's careers education support programme until 2010.
- She led the establishment of the CEGNET website and development of the national resources pack to support statutory careers education. She also led the quality assurance strand for the 3-year national STEM Careers Awareness project.
- Claire has previously had lead responsibility for quality assurance in a range of different businesses and worked with a range of the earlier quality award schemes for CEIAG. She has also led health check and quality audits in individual schools and local authorities and was an additional inspector in Connexions inspections.
- She has also been an external examiner for the QCG course at Canterbury Christ Church.
- Claire joined the Quality in Careers national team in 2014 and, after primarily undertaking CQIRs of Licensed Awarding Bodies, she has now become fully involved as a national Professional Adviser for Quality in Careers.

#### **(iv) KATH WRIGHT**

- Kath joined the Quality in Careers national team in January 2020. She has a long and distinguished track-record in careers education.
- Kath's background in teaching in the 1980s, then her education-business partnership activity and involvement with quality awards for careers education and guidance (which dates back to the 1990s) culminated in her leadership of the Essex County Council "ROQA Quality Award for CEIAG".
- Under Kath's leadership, Essex ROQA was the first local authority-led quality award for CEIAG to achieve Quality in Careers national validation in 2012 (prior to the arrangements from 2017 where the Quality in Careers Standard has replaced all local awards to become the single national Quality Award for CEIAG).
- After leaving Essex County Council in 2014, Kath set up her CEG consultancy.
- She assessed schools and colleges under the auspices of another quality award and is now joining the Quality in Careers national team of Advisers, independent of any of the Licensed Awarding Bodies for the national Standard.
- Kath has become a member of the Board of the Career Development Institute (CDI) and acts as Chair of the Community of Interest for Careers Education.
- She is currently the lead writer, trainer and assessor for the Certificate in Careers Leadership L6 (CDI) and a trainer and assessor for Suffolk County Council.
- For Quality in Careers, Kath has begun undertaking assignments, and will next be working on CQIRs initially, then progressing to fulfil the role of Professional Adviser at a number of future national panels.