

Comments on the Draft Standards for Course Design (Coursework) and Learning Outcomes (Coursework) from Higher Ed Services (HES)

The **proposed format** for the standards is clear and concise; the language used will certainly permit, if not encourage, a great deal of flexibility in the application of the said standards. Given the huge disparity of institutions, with access to vastly different resources, to which these standards will apply, the reference points are essential, to ensure interpretation is minimised positively, and to clarify how institutions actually adhere to each of their own interpretations; the standards are very broad.

When completing their compliance requirements institutions could find the reference points useful; however, the reference points may be used as surrogate standards. Clarification on the use of the AQF as a reference point could well prove useful to institutions.

The proposed standards for **Course Design and Learning Outcomes** provide sound bases for institutions. It is interesting to note that the proposed standards do not refer to any level/s of achievement, excellence, or measure of quality, all of which institutions strive to establish, develop and integrate into their academic culture, and are arguably essential elements of academic life.

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