Date of Evaluation: 31st May 2021

Programmes Title(s) Evaluated: Certificate in Social Prescribing Level 6 20 ECTS

Award titles: Certificate in Social Prescribing

Unique Programme
Reference Number PRN: SG_GSOCI_S06

Panel of Assessors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name &amp; title</th>
<th>Job title &amp; place of work</th>
<th>Role on panel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prof Frances Lucy,</td>
<td>Head of Department of Environmental Science, Institute of Technology, Sligo, Member of the Planning and Co-ordination Committee.</td>
<td>Chairperson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Niall McEvoy</td>
<td>Head of Innovation, Institute of Technology, Sligo</td>
<td>Panel member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr David Robinson,</td>
<td>Co-Chair of The Social Prescribing Network Ireland, Consultant Geriatrician (St James's Hospital), James's Street, Dublin</td>
<td>External Panel Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Aodhmar Cadogan,</td>
<td>Assistant Registrar, Institute of Technology Sligo.</td>
<td>Secretary to the Panel</td>
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</tbody>
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Declaration Regarding Any Conflicts of Interest: The members of the Panel signed a form confirming that they did not have any conflict of interest.
### Meeting groups

Persons met by validation panel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name &amp; title</th>
<th>Role in Institute</th>
<th>Rationale for presence at validation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr Breda McTaggart</td>
<td>Head of Department</td>
<td>Institute Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Natalie Delimata</td>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>Programme Team / Programme Development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Validation criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rationale for the programme</th>
<th>Sufficient evidence / Insufficient evidence</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Philosophy underpinning the programme e.g. market for programme in the region and its relevance to the region</td>
<td>Sufficient evidence provided by the panel. SláinteCare programme recognises the need for social prescribing and this course would fill the gap to provide education for social prescribers and link workers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Graduate profile and employment opportunities for graduates</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Rationale for the programme e.g. School’s/Institute’s strengths/opportunities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Programme Aims and Objectives</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Expected intellectual development and Programme learning outcomes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Related existing programmes</td>
<td></td>
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**Commendation:** None  
**Condition:** None  
**Recommendation 1:** In the Entry Requirements and Access routes in AMM, include working with elderly people as one of the target student types.

### Programme structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sufficient evidence provided, content is appropriate and covers all the relevant areas.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Delivery type (semesterised or stage-based)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Proposed mode of delivery (i.e. in-class, on-line, blended, full time and/or part time)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Planned intake numbers (over the full duration of the programme)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Role of placement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Commendation:** None
**Condition 1** Correct the programme schedule in AMM so that the contact hours (2) and the independent learning hours (5) are clear to an incoming student (volume 2 of the documentation) in line with the Institute recommended weekly hours of 7 for 5ECTS.

**Recommendation:** None

**Resources (over the full duration of the programme)**
- Facilities and human and material resources available to mount the programme
- Clarification of any staffing requirements
- Location of the delivery
- Specific requirements: lecture rooms, laboratories, library, Information technology and other student supports
- Confirmation regarding any new facilities and staffing requirements
- Special requirements (e.g. remote access for distance learners)

**Sufficient evidence provided. Resources are sufficient within the school to deliver the programme.**

**Commendation 1:** The panel commends the intended use of guest speakers especially those from a medical background to add to the depth and diversity of the programme for students.

**Condition:** None

**Recommendation:** None

**Access, Transfer and Progression Criteria**
- Student admission requirements
- Progression criteria from one stage to the next and to higher levels on the NFQ
- Non-standard entry (e.g. mature candidates and candidates with experiential learning)
- Transfer policy into the programme and onto other programmes

**Sufficient evidence provided. This certificate could be a precursor for those who are not sure of their choice for further education, an introduction to those with no formal third level education who are currently working in the community or those who wish to develop in this area and build on their existing qualification in Drama, Art, Social Care etc. The course would appeal to a diverse range of people working as Volunteers, community workers, or those in community development, horticulture or social justice.**

**Commendation:** None

**Condition:** None

**Recommendation 2:** The panel recommended that the claim of being the first course in UK be removed, as there are some courses in the UK, albeit not on the NFQ framework currently.

**Curriculum**

**Sufficient evidence provided.**
- A matrix exhibiting the academic pathway and the relationship between modules
- The consistency between the programme content, teaching methods and the programme learning outcomes
- Balance between the depth and breadth of the programme
- Rigour of the academic standard in the final stage of the programme
- Student workload
- Practice: the role and management of placement or work-based projects.

**Commendation:** None.

**Condition:** None

**Recommendation 3:** The learning outcome in module CARE06030 are very generic, consider rephrasing to make more specific to this module. Correct minor errors as indicated by the panel e.g. MODULE CARE 06027

**Assessment**

- The appropriateness of the modes of assessment to be used
- The balance between the marks awarded for different assessment modes (e.g. continuous assessment, projects, reports, sit-down examination)
- Confirmation that all of the programme learning outcomes are appropriately and adequately assessed within the set of module assessments.

**Commendation:** None

**Condition:** None

**Recommendation 4** Consider including a component of group work within or as a component of the assessment on one or more modules.

**Staffing**

- Quality and specialities of staff available to support the programme
- Technical and administrative support
- Staff development

**Sufficient evidence provided.** The panel reviewed the assessment matrix and would recommend that some of the assessment would be Team / Group Based.
- Industrial/commercial profile of staff
- Research and publications

**Commendation:**

**Condition:**

**Recommendation 5:** While the panel commends the knowledge and enthusiasm of the Programme lead in the development of the programme they recommend that at least one other lecturer is involved in the delivery of the programme.

**Programme Administration and Quality Assurance**

- Procedure for managing programme
- Student support student counselling and tutorial arrangements
- Aspects of programme which highlight and foster study skills, independent learning and the inculcation of individual responsibility in students
- EU and international aspects if appropriate
- Feedback mechanisms e.g. use of surveys, focus groups and follow-up actions.

**Commendation:** None

**Condition:** None

**Recommendation** None

**Overall decision of the panel**

The panel agreed to recommend to the Academic council the approval of the following programme:

Certificate in Social Prescribing

Chairperson: Prof Frances Lucy

___________________________________________  Date ___________________________

Secretary: Dr Aodhmar Cadogan
Appendix 1

Programme Schedule

**SG_GSOCI_S06**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>M/E</th>
<th>PT Hours</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>FO %</th>
<th>CA %</th>
<th>PF %</th>
<th>EXAM %</th>
<th>PROJ %</th>
<th>PRAC %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CARE06027</td>
<td>Social Prescribing 1: Introduction to Theory, Policy &amp; Practice</td>
<td>Stage 1</td>
<td>Semester 1</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARE06030</td>
<td>Social Prescribing 2: Community Resources &amp; Creative Communication</td>
<td>Stage 1</td>
<td>Semester 1</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>CARE06029</td>
<td>Social Prescribing 3: Social Inclusion &amp; Effective Communication</td>
<td>Stage 1</td>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARE06028</td>
<td>Social Prescribing 4: Evidence Informed Practice</td>
<td>Stage 1</td>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Mandatory</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100</td>
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