

Appendix 1

DkIT - Leading and Serving the North Leinster-South Ulster Region



**Mission-Based Performance Compact 2018-2021
Between
Dundalk Institute of Technology and Higher Education Authority**

31st January 2019

3: Mission and Strategy Statement

Higher Education Institution's mission and strategy sets out its values and aspirations, what it does and how it can best serve the interests of its students, staff and key stakeholders. The Higher Education Authority and Higher Education Institution acknowledge that Higher Education Institution's mission and strategy may evolve.

Higher Education Institution and the Higher Education Authority recognise that Higher Education Institution is an autonomous institution that is responsible for determining its mission, its aspirations and its strategies for their achievement.

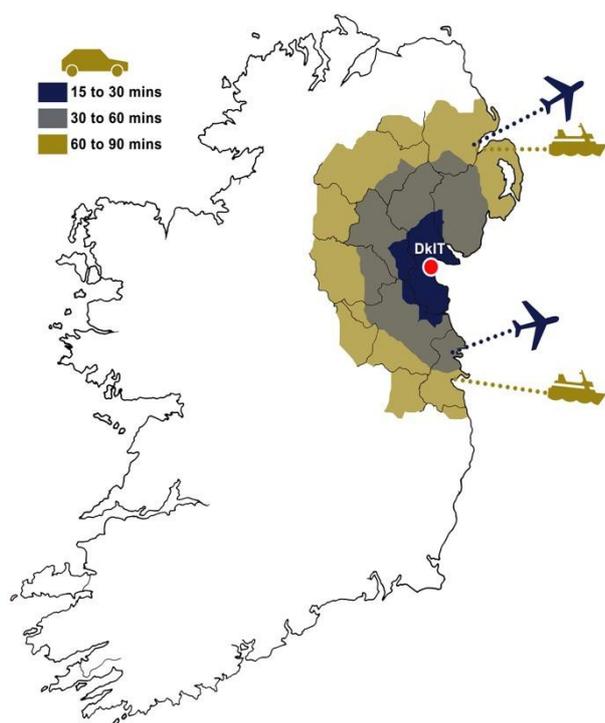
However, the Higher Education Authority must ensure that together the missions and profiles of the different institutions will lead to overall coherence of the higher education system as a whole and to completeness, ensuring that national needs are being met and without unnecessary duplication.

Changes to the mission and strategy statement

The Higher Education Authority acknowledges that Higher Education Institution may adjust its mission and strategy from time to time. Higher Education Institution agrees that the following will be the subject of strategy and performance dialogue with the Higher Education Authority and may result in a change to the Compact:

- Any significant change that it proposes to make to its mission during the term of the Compact
- Any significant change that it intends to make to its activities that could affect either the content or the practical application of its mission.

Enter a short summary of your mission and strategy statement here along with a link to your institution's published strategy.



Dundalk Institute of Technology (DkIT) has earned its reputation as the leading higher education provider in the North Leinster- South Ulster region (serving Cavan, Monaghan, Louth, Meath, North County Dublin, Armagh and Down) through its first- class teaching and learning, research and engagement. Set in a state-of-the-art 87 acre campus, DkIT provides quality learning and teaching to circa 5,480 students across four Schools in Business and Humanities, Health and Science, Engineering and Informatics and Creative Arts at undergraduate and postgraduate degrees from Level 6 to PhD level, in addition to its track record of excellence in apprenticeships. (Appendix 1 provides a summary overview of the profile of DkIT).

DkIT differentiates itself from other Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) as a cross- border Institute with **its distinctive mission and commitment to the educational, economic, social and cultural development of the North.**

4.6 Key System Objective 6:

Demonstrate consistent improvement in governance, leadership and operational excellence.

High Level Targets:

1. Implementation of the 2018 Higher Education Gender Equality Task Force Action Plan and the 2016 Expert Group recommendations;
2. HEIs to have attained an Athena SWAN bronze institutional award by 2019 (TUs within 3 years of establishment);
3. All HEIs to submit their annual Governance Statements to HEA on time;
4. 100% compliance by HEIs with public procurement rules;
5. Draft annual financial statements to be submitted by HEIs to C&AG within stipulated C&AG guidelines;
6. Full transparency in HEI financial statements about accounting for Trusts and Foundations;
7. 100% compliance by HEIs with public pay policy;
8. 100% compliance by HEIs with public sector numbers controls;
9. Implementation of recommendations from rolling governance reviews;
10. HEA will develop individual compacts with the HEIs which reflect the overall ambitions of the System Performance Framework and local/regional opportunities;
11. Institutional strategic compacts will be assessed by a panel of experts, including international participants, to assess their coherence and capacity for delivery.

Strategy summary

Please provide details of a maximum of two institutional strategic priorities Higher Education Institution has identified under Key System Objective 6. Each strategic priority should include a description of the strategic initiatives, with reference to the above high-level targets, that Higher Education Institution is currently implementing or will implement over the three-year timespan of the compact (academic years 2018-2021).

This should reference the benchmarks by which the objectives have been set. Further supporting evidence, with regard to the means of verification, should be provided in the appendices.

Please note any external factors or assumptions that might affect institutional progress towards stated development objectives.

Strategy summary:

DKIT aims to continue to be a transformational driving force in the North Leinster-South Ulster region by maintaining and enhancing its profile and position in learning and teaching, research, innovation, engagement and internationalisation. **The Institute aims to deliver on its promise to learners, to the community and to the region and is committed to promoting equality of opportunity.**

DKIT's two Institutional Strategic Priorities under this Key System Objective 6 in improving the governance, leadership and operational excellence are:



DUNDALK
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA
DHÚN DEALGAN



DKIT STRATEGIC PLAN 2017 - 2019

CONNECT TO YOUR FUTURE





FOREWORD

Dundalk Institute of Technology (DkIT) faced significant challenges during the lifetime of the last Strategic Plan (2011-2016). The national priorities articulated in the National Strategy for Higher Education to 2030 were ambitious and plotted a new direction for the development of a coherent and collaborative higher education system through regional clusters and technological universities. Greater emphasis was placed on the multiple roles of higher education in learning and teaching, research and engagement with demands to engage more significantly in delivering on its remit regionally, nationally and internationally. This responsibility and accountability was further embedded in the strategic dialogue process linked to a performance funding model and the development of Institutional Mission-based Performance Compacts. Throughout this time, higher education in general, and DkIT in particular, faced sustained and severe funding cuts and reduced resources in staffing, capital and infrastructure. Nonetheless, the Institute strove to meet the ambitions set out in its Strategic Plan and succeeded in achieving its core strategic goals and objectives.

DkIT has proven itself to be adaptive and resilient in addressing difficult challenges and managing change while excelling in learning and teaching, research and engagement. The Institute was cited by the OECD in 2016 as a best practice exemplar in Europe for embedding entrepreneurship education and was also honoured with the prestigious HR Excellence in Research Award by the European Commission. Such honours recognise the achievements of Institute staff in delivering high quality education underpinned by research and engagement for the benefit of our learners and the region we serve.

DkIT will retain its position within the higher education landscape nationally and will further enhance its relationship with strategic partners. Where appropriate, the Institute will seek to develop new alliances to cement future development. DkIT will continue to place a strategic focus on its internationalisation agenda and maintain its position as one of the top performers in this area. The Institute will engage with all areas of its region in delivering educational, economic, social and cultural opportunities.

Central to the theme of this Strategy is the connected community served by the Institute - its internal community of learners and staff and external community stakeholders, including employers, enterprise, community organisations and others. DkIT's primary focus as a higher education provider is on its region. The Institute will aim to address the needs of all learners and learner groups in a responsive and flexible manner. Additionally the Institute will seek to meet the needs of employers through a collaborative engagement framework.

As one of three higher education Institutes located along the border with Northern Ireland, the recent Brexit decision impacts on DkIT with its attendant challenges and opportunities. The Institute commits to ongoing collaboration with colleagues and strategic partners in Northern Ireland to secure the joint future of the cross-border region.

This Strategy sets out a new ambition for DkIT which is mindful of continuing financial constraints. The Institute will continue to build on its successes, and with renewed determination, will continue to serve learners, employers, communities and the region.

Ann Campbell
President

DkIT's Strategic Plan 2017-2019 plots a new trajectory for the Institute in securing and advancing its position within the higher education landscape. We have reflected on the achievements and challenges of the past and we now look forward to a brighter, **more connected future.**

Lú Louth

Straitéis Chultúir agus
Chruthaitheachta 2018–2022

Culture and Creativity
Strategy 2018–2022





Dundalk Institute of Technology (DKIT) is our third level partner with a complement of 5,300 students and 500 staff drawn from the County, its hinterland and beyond. Its role includes maximizing the impact that the Institute can have on the economic, social and cultural life of the people living in its catchment.

Its dedicated Department of Creative Arts and Media and Music fosters and develops creative practitioners and entrepreneurs.

The Department hosts an extensive annual programme of public events which incorporate links to the Ortel region in which it is located. Its Creative Arts Research Centre supports a number of research initiatives and has delivered a wide range of internationally-recognised creative outputs to date.

Louth's past influences all its artforms and our traditional culture is deep-rooted in the County ranging from indigenous crafts, language, oral traditions and the celebration of the Irish Harp, our national instrument. In the south of the County an important song tradition, which has been handed down through local families, has been collected and celebrated by musicians and academics. Drogheda is home to this tradition, with many young people now singing the songs of the Usher and Carolan families.

Culture and creativity form pathways to participation in civic dialogue, to developing artists and creative practitioners and to building strong and engaged communities in the County. These pathways offer opportunities to embrace the cultural identities of our new communities as an integrated part of our contemporary cultural development and as bedrock for the development and sustainability of a healthy society.

Hear Our Voices: Change the Record, Change the World
Adults with intellectual disability often find themselves excluded from higher education opportunities, spaces and settings. They are disempowered and prevented from experiencing the transformative powers of continuing education that can help them transform the society in which they live.

The Hear our Voices project facilitated collaboration between DKIT music students and a local resource centre for adults with intellectual disabilities. The project was developed from specific ideas articulated by the participants. The participants worked with artist-facilitators to realise their dreams of writing and performing songs that told stories of their experiences. The project culminated in a concert of songs written by the participants and performed by DKIT music students.

The project has raised awareness of the need for inclusion in education and the requirement to find spaces, in which people can connect, communicate and cooperate to begin to address societal challenges. The concert shone a light on local issues, generating awareness amongst the wider community of the power of culture in engaging communities and making a difference in our society.


<https://www.volunteerlouth.ie>
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COMMUNITY CONNECT @ DKIT

Dundalk Institute of Technology, in October, stepped up their campaign to engage with the community in Dundalk and Co Louth by opening the campus to local community groups. Local groups were invited to a Volunteer Fair on 23rd October, organised by DkIT and supported by Louth Volunteer Centre and at the same time they launched their Community Connect @ DkIT initiative.

The theme of the launch was 'Engaging People'. It brought together students, staff, community groups and policy makers to focus on how engagement and co-operation can empower individuals and enrich communities. Speakers from various backgrounds highlighted the importance of volunteering to the community and how the relationships built between volunteers and community organisations can be so beneficial to both.



The volunteer fair consisted of 23 local organisations who spent the day chatting to students about the work that they are doing and the types of volunteers that they are hoping to recruit. There was a great level of interest from the students.

While all of this was going on, the Volunteer Society were busy hosting a student led event to highlight the importance of getting involved and being an active citizen. There were a variety of events for the students to participate in, and they raised vital funds for the Irish Cancer Society and SOSAD.

It was really great to see the hard work of everyone involved paying off and the start of a great relationship between DkIT and the local community.

TESTIMONIALS

Guest

4 Months in the greatest remark I can make is I wish I had become active in attempting to alleviate the struggles of others sooner as their is no ... [read more](#)

William

I am a recovering alcoholic. I am sober eleven years Thank God. I volunteered in a drop in cafe in Sligo for alcoholics in recovery. I just want to ... [read](#)

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DkIT host first College of Sanctuary Working Group meeting

DkIT host first College of Sanctuary Working Group meeting

31 MAY 2018

On **24th May, 2018**, the inaugural meeting of the DkIT College of Sanctuary Working Group took place in the CúChulainn Suite in the Regional Development Centre.



As well as internal members of DkIT leadership team, academic staff, library staff and support services, the meeting was addressed by Tian Yu Lloyd, Assistant Co-ordinator of Paces of Sanctuary Ireland. Other members of the external community of Dundalk were also in attendance as well as members of the Carroll Village Direct Provision Centre. The meeting was a wonderful launch of this initiative in Dundalk which will see asylum seekers and DkIT work together in a spirit of mutual learning. Places of Sanctuary Ireland is a network of groups in towns, cities and local communities which share the objectives of promoting the integration, inclusion and welfare of refugees, asylum seekers and

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vulnerable migrants, by encouraging every sector of society to make a practical commitment to becoming places of welcome and safety.

PoSI works through community groups, schools and colleges, churches, local councils, businesses and other organisations in the belief that these newcomers have a huge amount to offer Irish society. We want to ensure that their voices are heard and that their skills and talents are given an opportunity to flourish for their good and for that of Irish society as a whole. PoSI is not affiliated to any political or religious organisation, but is linked to the wider City of Sanctuary movement which was established in the UK in 2005 with a vision for making cities places that had a culture of welcome and inclusion, especially for those seeking sanctuary. Dundalk Institute of Technology is actively pursuing a future of greater inclusion, opportunity and equality.

For more information visit the website:

Ireland City of Sanctuary (<http://ireland.cityofsanctuary.org/>)

If you have any questions, please contact:

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Social Enterprise Awards Runner Up 2018 ([news/dkit-student-app-announced-as-the-spark-national-social-enterprise-awards-runner-up-2018.html](https://www.dkit.ie/news/dkit-student-app-announced-as-the-spark-national-social-enterprise-awards-runner-up-2018.html))

DkIT to host GAA forum ahead of Trench Cup battle in Mallow ([news/dkit-to-host-gaa-forum-ahead-of-trench-cup-battle-in-mallow.html](https://www.dkit.ie/news/dkit-to-host-gaa-forum-ahead-of-trench-cup-battle-in-mallow.html))

DkIT Welcomes Holocaust Survivor Tomi Reichental on Campus ([news/dkit-welcomes-holocaust-survivor-tomi-reichental-on-campus.html](https://www.dkit.ie/news/dkit-welcomes-holocaust-survivor-tomi-reichental-on-campus.html))

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PROSPECTUS



DkIT @DkIT_ie · 14 Oct 2016

Solemn Novena takes place tonight in St.Gerard's Parish [#Religion](#)
[#DkITCommunity](#) ow.ly/iwTY3056h7T



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Dundalk Solemn Novena

Events > Dundalk Solemn Novena

News



Provincial's Christmas
Message 2018
27 Nov 2018

Dundalk Solemn Novena

Date/Time

08 Oct 2016 - 16 Oct 2016

Location

St Joseph's Monastery, Dundalk Louth



#DICKET

Undergraduate Mini Guide

Start Something New

2019-2020



DkIT has one of the

lowest dropout rates

of any of the Institutes of Technologies in Ireland. Much of this is due the excellent supports our students receive!

Chaplaincy

The DkIT Chaplaincy is available to all students and provides pastoral and holistic care within the college community. Our on-site chaplaincy staff organise a variety of events and services and are always on hand to provide a friendly face, a smile and words of welcome to students of all faiths. For more information visit: dkit.ie/chaplaincy

Access

The DkIT Access office is committed to increasing access and participation rates of students from under-represented groups. The access service coordinates the mature entry route into DkIT and also operates the DkIT Access Scholarship. For more information visit: dkit.ie/access