

## 4.5    Content

In addition to the prescriptions of the 2012 Act and EU directives, the full suite of QA guidelines will address the following areas (this list is not exhaustive):

- a.**        Programmes of education and training, research and related services offered by providers. This includes:
  - Programme design
  - The learning environment (including teaching and research)
  
- b.**        Other party engagements. This includes:
  - Transnational and collaborative provision
  - Linked providers.

#### 4.5.a International and European Influences

QQI's QA guidelines will reflect Ireland's commitment and contribution to international effective practice, EU directives and policy. Notably, these include:

- The “Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (2015)”
- The “European Quality Assurance Reference Framework for Vocational Education and Training”

#### 4.5.b Prescription and Aspiration

Where the activity or sector being addressed through the QA guidelines warrants more detailed and / or more specific guidelines, this may be provided for. Where the area being addressed by the guideline is, for example less mature or poses a greater risk to learners or the education and training system in general, the guidelines may be more prescriptive. This does not imply compliance-oriented guidelines, but that more specific guidance is seen as necessary in certain areas.