

CLOSURE OF COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

5.1 PROCEDURES FOR PROGRAMME CLOSURE

- I. In considering types of programme closure, it is clear that they may be temporary or permanent. The following definitions apply to types of closure:

Suspension

The temporary closure of a programme for a maximum of three years. Any programme suspended for more than three years shall be subject to permanent closure. The period of approval determined by the previous validation would still be valid and if the period of suspension exceeded the period of approval the programme would need to be re-validated in order to recruit.

Permanent Closure

The final and permanent closure of a programme. Any proposal to re-introduce a similar course would be subject to full scrutiny by the University.

- II. The University seeks to protect the interests of students and applicants, as well as the University itself. The Collaborations Department, a school (and/or collaborative partner institution) cannot close or suspend a programme under its own authority as the contractual liabilities between students and applicants and the University hold significant legal consequences for the University.
- III. A recommendation to close or suspend a programme can be made by the Collaborations Department, a school, UCC and exceptionally by the University. Where a programme has not had a student registered upon it for three years and where there are no outstanding applications of viable candidates the programme should be formally closed. Where the agreed minimum recruitment of students has not been achieved a programme should be suspended.