

2021 EXAM SETTER & CRITIC SURVEY

SUMMARY

Overall, we heard Exam Setters and Critics:

- are positive about the role and working with others
- find recent improvements useful while the electronic form for feedback on the draft exam could be further improved
- want to continue working with TASC and would refer a friend to work with TASC
- want more support using MS Teams and online forms
- see the future of exams changing
- said the priority for longer term improvement is the exam development process and logistics.

WHO WE HEARD FROM



Survey responses

69%



Participation rate

↑29% from 2020

98%



Represents 42 of the 43 written exams 103



Individuals employed

37 Setters 66 Critics

132

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Positions filled

12 mins

X

Average time to complete survey

83% were continuing Exam Setters and Critics and 17% were new to the role/s

WHAT WE HEARD

WORKING WITH TASC



89% would refer a friend to work with TASC

62% welcome a recognition certificate for their role

57% intend to reapply in 2022 (inc. 3% for a different TASC role)

37% have not yet decided



100% felt interactions between staff and colleagues were respectful





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82%

felt they were able to give and receive open and constructive criticism to Setters/Critics/TASC



30%

felt role(s) and expectations were clearly communicated



72%

felt supported with tools and resources

"Thanks for all your attention to detail and fastidiousness. It has been a delight to work in this space."

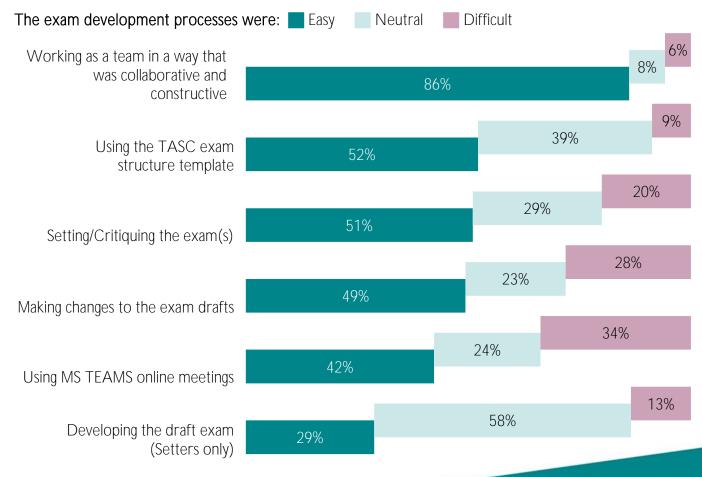
"The job of exam critic is a very interesting and time-consuming. I love the job of getting my head around all the requirements and helping to provide a good exam for the students."

"The new outlines, process and blueprints for exam setting: the templates which were used this year are still based on a 'one size fits all' type of exam. It seems that the template would fit a maths/science exam and is still a bit clunky when it comes to more essay-based exams."

"I think that schools need a bit more support - otherwise they are releasing staff without perhaps a lot of compensation in return."

"The process worked well this year. Staff were uniformly supportive and highly efficient. I found it smoother than the previous few years."

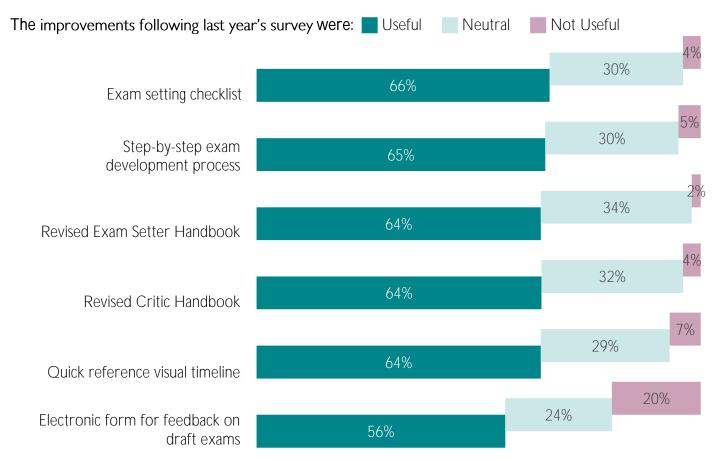
SETTER/CRITIC ROLE







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- "No suggestions the process went very smoothly."
- "Provide feedback to the critic after the final review of draft 2 (to advise if the changes were accepted)."
- "The generic critic response booklets/forms gave limited scope for effective feedback."
- "We needed a TASC person to make draft corrections on the spot as was done in previous years. To take this part of the process away led to more incidental questions that could have been answered quickly and effectively if a TASC member were present. All initial changes and formatting were left to the setting examiner which was time consuming and not fair."
- "Critic; no point providing answers to Draft 1 as the exam often changes considerably during the Critics meeting. Would be useful for Setter to dot-point answers to Draft 1 to clearly show intention of question and expected response."

THE FUTURE



The priority focus for longer-term improvement should be:

- 1. Exam development process and logistics
- Ö
- 2. Exam development timeline
- 3. Renumeration and recognition
- 4. Additional critic staffing.

What the future (5yrs+) of the exams might look like:

30% offered suggestions of future improvements

24% feel current process would be unsustainable

 $19\% \longrightarrow \text{think it will remain the same}$

9% think sourcing qualified staff will be more difficult

7% were unsure of the future

3% lalked about digitised/online assessment.

