

# Ofqual Board

# Paper 63/16

Date:

30 November 2016

Title:

Annual review of the Governance Framework

Report by:

Vickie Bentley, Interim Board Secretary

**Responsible Officer:** 

Sally Collier, Chief Regulator

Paper for decision

open paper

Issue

1. The Ofqual governance framework is formally reviewed at least once a year. This paper presents the outcome of that review and proposes adjustments to the framework.

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#### Recommendation

- 2. The Ofqual Board is recommended to:-
  - (i) approve the adjustments to the Governance Framework set out at Annex A:
  - (ii) note that from the departure of the current Chair until a new Chair is in post, the effect of the Governance Framework is that decisions delegated to the Chair are to be taken by the Deputy Chair.

#### **Analysis**

3. Proposed changes to the governance framework are annotated as tracked changes in Annex A to this paper. Areas where change is proposed are:-

- (i) Removal of reference to Northern Ireland Office and Northern Ireland Assembly

  Due to the closure of the Northern Ireland Office and change of the remit of Ofqual's regulation these references have been removed throughout.
- (ii) Changes to references from Chief Executive to Chief Regulator
  The terms "Chief Executive" and "Chief Regulator" are used interchangeably throughout the Governance Framework. For consistency the term "Chief Executive" has been replaced with the term "Chief Regulator" throughout.
- (iii) Minor drafting revisions to secure consistency of terminology.
- For any period of time where no Chair is in post. Delegations made to the Chair pass to the Deputy Chair until such time as a new Chair is in post.
- 5. For completeness, although we expect a prompt appointment to the post of Ofqual Chair, in the unlikely event that no appointment can be made, more detailed interim arrangements are likely to be needed. The decisions on the individual who would formally act as interim Chair and the terms of any such appointment, including remuneration and working hours are decisions for the Secretary of State. Decisions on the extent and scope of duties and delegated responsibilities for any interim Chair are however decisions of the Board. Should a longer term interim arrangement become necessary, interim governance arrangements, including the possible appointment of an interim Deputy, would need to be considered and agreed by the Board.

#### **Finance and Resource**

6. Costs for this review and its implementation are limited to a small amount of staff time.

#### **Impact Assessments**

Equality Analysis

7. No impact.

Risk Assessment

8. No impact

Regulatory Impact Assessment

9. No impact.

#### **Timescale**

10. Changes will take effect immediately.

# Communications

11. The revised Governance Framework will be published on the intranet and the external website

Paper to be published	YES
Publication date (if relevant)	After the meeting

## **ANNEXES LIST:-**

## **ANNEX A** Annotated Governance Framework