



**Minutes**

Emergency Board Meeting

**Time and venue**

1.00pm by Microsoft Teams

**Date**

Sunday, 16 August 2020

**Attendees**

Board

Susan Barratt

Ian Bauckham

Delroy Beverley

Sally Collier

Chief Regulator

Mike Cresswell

Lesley Davies

Hywel Jones

Catherine McClellan

Roger Taylor

Chair

Matt Tee

Frances Wadsworth

Ofqual

Phil Beach

Executive Director, Vocational and Technical Qualifications

Niamh Field

Board Secretary

Michael Hanton

Director of Strategy and Markets

Matthew Humphrey

Director of Legal Moderation and Enforcement

Kate Keating

Director of Communications

Michelle Meadows

Executive Director, Strategy, Risk and Research

Sean Pearce

Chief Operating Officer

Julie Swan

Executive Director for General Qualifications

Anona White

Private Secretary to the Chief Regulator

**97/20 Welcome and apologies for absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Christine Ryan and Mike Thompson.

**98/20 Declarations of interest**

There were no additional declarations of interest.

**99/20 Update on 2020 Appeals guidance**

The Chair updated the Board on the current context, and had drafted a paper setting out the issue at hand, which was the basis of mock appeals. The paper also set out the full range of options open to the Board, including – to issue calculated grades but allow a mock appeals route that allowed for grades higher than CAGs to be issued; to issue calculated grades but allow for a mock appeal to receive a grade up to but no higher than the CAG; to issue CAGs to all students.

The Board had originally decided that grades which were subject to appeal by the centre with regard to having a higher mock grade should be limited to the centre-assessed grade (CAG). Feedback from centres made clear that there was widespread interest in making use of this appeals route and little consistency in the evidence on which it would be based. As centres had already confirmed that they had considered the evidence of mock results in determining the likely grade for each candidate, it would not be consistent to present this as evidence of a higher grade. The Board had agreed this on the 14 August and the guidance had been published and subsequently removed on the 15 August while the Board reviewed its position.

*This section has been redacted as it contains legally privileged information.*

*This section has been redacted, as its publication would be prejudicial to the effective conduct of public affairs.*

**RESOLVED:**

The Board resolved to allow for a change in the appeals system to remove the CAG cap but instructed the Chair to have a further discussion with the Secretary of State about awarding CAGs, indicating the Board's increasing concerns and opinion that this was becoming the inevitable course.

One Board member abstained.

The Board agreed to reconvene at 17.00pm once the Chair had spoken to the SoS.

**100/20 Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

The meeting ended at 14.45pm.