

Douglas Blackstock Chief Executive The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education Southgate House Southgate Street Gloucester GL1 1UB

Sam Gyimah MP

Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation

1 Victoria Street London SW1H 0ET

08 February 2018

Dear Douglas,

On behalf of the Secretary of State, I am writing to confirm notice of designation of the Quality Assurance Agency as the Designated Quality Body, under paragraph 3(3) of Schedule 4 of the Higher Education and Research Act 2017.

The effective date of designation will be 1 April 2018.

I look forward to working with you and the Office for Students in development of a new system to perform the effective assessment of the quality of, and the standards applied to, higher education providers in England and that this is fully implemented by 1 August 2019.

Yours sincerely,

SAM GYIMAH MP Minister for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation