



OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Minutes

Emergency Board Meeting

Date

Wednesday, 01 April 2020

Attendees

Board

Susan Barratt
Ian Bauckham
Sally Collier
Mike Cresswell
Lesley Davies
Hywel Jones
Christine Ryan
Roger Taylor
Matt Tee
Mike Thompson
Frances Wadsworth

Chair

Ofqual

Varinder Bassan
Phil Beach
Daniel Gutteridge
Matthew Humphrey
Cath Jadhav
Kate Keating
Emma Leary
Michelle Meadows
Sean Pearce
Natalie Prosser
Lucy Sydney
Julie Swan
Anona White

Acting Board Secretary
Executive Director, Vocational and Technical Qualifications
Director of Legal
Director of Legal Moderation and Enforcement
Director of Standards and Comparability
Director of Communications
Associate Director VTQ Policy
Executive Director, Strategy, Risk and Research
Chief Operating Officer
Director of Operations, VTQ
Director of Strategic Relations, VTQ
Executive Director, General Qualifications
Private Secretary to the Chief Regulator



01/20 Welcome and apologies

Apologies were received from Delroy Beverley.

02/20 Summer 2020 – Directions from Secretary of State for Education (Closed)

The Board was advised that the Emergency Board Meeting had been called to consider the signed direction from the Secretary of State regarding general qualifications and the draft direction regarding vocational and technical qualifications.

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

Decision

The Board:

- i. Noted the previous decisions made at the Emergency meeting of the Board on the 20 March 2020.
- ii. Considered and agreed that Ofqual should give sufficient weight to government policy as directed and set out by the Secretary of State in the GQ Direction, and act in accordance with that GQ Direction.
- iii. Noted that the GQ direction would be published, and agreed that a response from the Chief Regulator should also be published, delegating the words of the response to the Chief Regulator in consultation with the Chair.
- iv. Considered and agreed that Ofqual should give sufficient weight to government policy as directed and set out by the Secretary of State in the VTQ Direction, and act in accordance with that VTQ Direction.
- v. Agreed that Ofqual should consult on the steps that needed to be taken to bring about the government policy detailed in the VTQ Direction, and that the following be delegated to the Chief Regulator in consultation with the Chair in that regard:-
 - (i) decisions as to how Ofqual would consult and with whom,
 - (ii) the duration and wording of any consultation.
- vi. Agreed that Ofqual should provide the Secretary of State with advice setting out views as to which qualifications fall within each category set out in the VTQ Direction in order for the Secretary of State to determine a list of qualifications which would be subject to Ofqual's extraordinary regulatory framework, and that

the content of that advice be delegated to the Chief Regulator in consultation with the Chair.

- vii. Noted that the VTQ Direction would be published, and agreed that the Chief Regulator should reply to the Secretary of State with the Board's position in respect of the VTQ Direction, agreed that the reply should also be published and that the words of that reply are delegated to the Chief Regulator in consultation with the Chair.