

To: All Responsible Officers of recognised awarding bodies



19 August 2021

Qualifications Wales Vocational Qualifications Contingency Regulatory Framework

Dear Responsible Officer

On 18 August, we published our updated [Vocational Qualifications Contingency Regulatory Framework \(Conditions and Requirements, and Guidance\)](#).

We have also published a notice to withdraw the designation of qualifications as Category B qualifications from 1 September 2021 and a notice to disapply condition VCR7.2 regarding appeals.

As for previous versions of the Vocational Qualifications Contingency Regulatory Framework, we have worked closely with our colleagues in Ofqual and CCEA Regulation when making amendments. We have aimed to ensure as much consistency in approach as possible to minimise burden on awarding bodies as the Covid-19 pandemic continues. As a result, the amendments that we have made to this version of the framework mirror those made by Ofqual. The following differences between our framework and Ofqual's, which were highlighted in our letter of 27 April 2021, remain:

- Condition VCR3.7 included within Ofqual's Vocational Qualifications Contingency Regulatory Framework has been omitted from our framework because our Conditions apply only in respect of, or for the purposes of, the award in Wales by an awarding body. All references to this Condition have also been removed from our associated guidance.
- Condition VCR7.1 included within Ofqual's Vocational Qualifications Contingency Regulatory Framework has been omitted from our framework because Technical Qualifications are not available in Wales.

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- References to the Qualifications Wales General Qualifications Alternative Awarding Framework for Wales (GQAAFW) alongside the Ofqual General Qualifications Alternative Awarding Framework are included in the Conditions and Guidance.

If you have any questions regarding the matter above, please contact enquiries@qualificationswales.org.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Richards', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jo Richards
Executive Director - Regulation