



**PUBLICATION NOTICE OF DETERMINATION TO RESTRICT PRIORITY
QUALIFICATIONS MADE UNDER SECTION 14 OF THE QUALIFICATIONS WALES
ACT 2015 ("The Act")**

This notice constitutes formal publication under Section 14(5) of the Act of a determination made under Section 14(1) of the Act in respect of the priority qualifications set out below.

Before making this determination, Qualifications Wales had, in accordance with section 14(7) of the Act, notified such persons as are required under that section and considered any representations made to it by those persons.

Determination

In respect of each new restricted qualification set out below, Qualifications Wales is satisfied that, having regard to the principal aims of Qualifications Wales, and to the objectives in subsection 14(4) of the Act, it is desirable to restrict the number of forms of the qualification that are approved by Qualifications Wales to the maximum number that is specified in this determination.

Qualifications Wales hereby determines that the maximum number of forms of each of the new restricted qualifications that are capable of being approved by Qualifications Wales under Part 4 of the Act at any one time is **one**.

The new restricted qualifications are:

- Foundation qualification in Construction and the Built Environment
- Progression qualification in Building Services Engineering¹
- Progression qualification in Construction²

¹ With trade specific pathways

² With trade specific pathways

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- Apprenticeship qualification in Building Services Engineering³
- Apprenticeship qualification in Construction⁴

Qualifications Wales intends to use its powers to develop forms of these new restricted qualifications for potential approval. This determination does not of itself affect the continuation of any current qualifications pending first teaching of the new restricted qualifications.

We currently intend for these qualifications to be available for first teaching from September 2021. Should this timetable change, we will notify each recognised body, and any other parties that we consider might reasonably be expected to have an interest in such a change.

The reasons for the determination are as follows:

Qualifications Wales has determined that the new restricted qualifications should be restricted to one form each in order to:

- avoid inconsistency between different forms of the same qualification, enabling all learners to be assessed using the same assessment methodology thereby ensuring greater consistency;
- enable us to prescribe requirements with regard to the provision of Welsh-medium assessment, continuing professional development for learning providers and to enable resources to be focussed on a smaller number of qualifications;
- ensure that qualification pathways are more cohesive and easier for learners, employers and centres to understand;
- place a greater emphasis on core, interpersonal and problem-solving skills, traditional building skills and materials, modern building skills and materials, progression from further education into apprenticeships and the development of on-the-job skills;
- better meet the needs of the range of employers in Wales, large and small, and across mainstream and specialist trades, and
- increase the likelihood that it is commercially viable for an awarding body to develop new qualifications that meet the needs of Wales.

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³ With trade specific pathways

⁴ With trade specific pathways