

8 June 2021

DETERMINATION NOTICE TO RESTRICT A PRIORITY QUALIFICATION 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 qualification set out below ("the new restricted qualification").

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.

A Notification of Intention to Restrict the Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales (level 3) was published on 23 February 2021. Qualifications Wales considered representations on this proposal received by **6 April 2021** prior to issuing this determination to restrict.

DETERMINATION

In respect of the 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.

Qualification Wales hereby determines that the maximum number of forms of the new restricted qualification that are capable of being Approved by Qualifications Wales under part 4 of the Act at any one time is one.

Qualifications Wales will adopt the Commissioning route for the new restricted qualification.

We intend that this qualification will be introduced for first teaching in September 2023. 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 restriction will be for 7 years from that time.

The new restricted qualification is the:

Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales (level 3)

The reasons for the determination are as follows:

Qualifications Wales has determined that the new restricted qualification should be restricted to one form.

The restriction is proposed in furtherance of our Principal Aims, and to:

- Enable us to exercise choice between different awarding bodies through a process of fair and open competition, to identify an awarding body to take forward the development of this qualification;
- Avoid inconsistency between different forms of the same qualification, enabling all learners to be assessed using the same assessment methodology, thereby ensuring greater consistency; and to
- Support the economic viability for awarding bodies to develop such qualifications for Wales.

This process of restriction and commissioning also enables us to:

- Prescribe requirements including Welsh-medium provision and professional development.
- Ensure that communication about, and awareness raising in relation to, the qualification is easier for learners, employers and centres to understand.