



Standard Conditions of Recognition

December 2023



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Introduction to the Standard Conditions of Recognition

Requirements set out in this document

Schedule 3, Section 2 of the Qualifications Wales Act 2015 requires us to prepare and publish Conditions (the “Standard Conditions”) to which each recognition of an awarding body is to be subject.

These Standard Conditions contain the rules that **all** awarding bodies and their qualifications must meet when offering qualifications to learners in Wales.

All regulated awarding bodies have a legal requirement to:

- comply with these rules on an ongoing basis; and
- have regard to any guidance that we may issue.

By setting these universal requirements for all recognised awarding bodies, we aim to provide a transparent, consistent basis against which we can assess each awarding body’s compliance.

The Standard Conditions of Recognition is part of a suite of documents which sets out our regulatory requirements for awarding organisations (see diagram below).

Standard Conditions of Recognition




Apply to all awarding bodies and all qualifications

Qualification-level Conditions of Recognition



Apply to awarding bodies offering a particular qualification form or type e.g. Additional Standard Conditions of Recognition for GCSE/GCE Qualifications

Special Conditions of Recognition



Apply to one or more awarding bodies

Approval Criteria



Apply to qualifications for which we have set and published criteria which must be met before it can be approved

Regulatory Documents



May apply to:

- All qualifications
- All qualifications of a particular form or type; or
- Qualifications of a particular description or type in a specific subject

Guidance



Apply to all awarding bodies and all qualifications

Requirements in other documents

We can also apply Conditions for:

- different descriptions of awarding bodies;
- different qualifications or different descriptions of qualifications;
- different circumstances in which a qualification is awarded; and
- different descriptions of persons to whom a qualification is awarded.

These Standard Conditions should be read in conjunction with all of our Regulatory Documents - a list of which is in our [Regulatory Documents List](#).

Awarding Bodies that offer qualifications in those areas where we have produced qualification-specific Conditions of Recognition e.g. ASC for GCSE / GCE Qualifications must read those Conditions alongside this document.

Similarly, any awarding body for whom we have imposed a Special Condition to which its recognition is subject e.g. Fee-capping Condition, must consider these in conjunction with reading this document.

Structure of our Standard Conditions of Recognition

The Standard Conditions of Recognition document is structured in three parts.

- Part 1 (Conditions A-C) addresses the organisational requirements that apply to an awarding body;
- Part 2 (Conditions D-I) addresses the requirements that apply to an awarding body as it designs, develops and awards regulated qualifications; and
- Section J sets out the rules of interpretation, and defined terms which shall apply for the purposes of our Conditions.

Throughout the document there are embedded links that when activated, will navigate to the defined terms in J.

Three-Regulator Conditions of Recognition: Areas of Difference

We recognise that awarding bodies in Wales may also be recognised by other regulators in England and in Northern Ireland, where they are subject to similar regulatory rules set by Ofqual and CCEA Regulation.

The Conditions are largely the same across each regulator. However, as independent regulators, there are, and will be, differences that reflect our remit, policies, processes and systems.

To facilitate awarding bodies with this, there is [a three-regulator document](#) which presents the main areas of difference in a visual and summary form.

Support and Guidance

We keep our Regulatory Documents under review. For any support and guidance with the Conditions, as well as any feedback on them, please contact the Regulatory Policy Team via our mailbox:

policy@qualifications.wales

This document is available in [Welsh](#).

Headings of each Condition

A	Part 1 – The awarding body Governance
A1	Suitability for continuing recognition
A2	Establishment in the UK, Gibraltar, the EU or the EFTA
A3	Safeguards on Change of Control
A4	Conflicts of Interest
A5	Availability of adequate resources and arrangements
A6	Identification and management of risks
A7	Management of incidents
A8	Malpractice and maladministration

B	The awarding body and Qualifications Wales
B1	The role of the Responsible Officer
B2	The annual statement of compliance to Qualifications Wales
B3	Notification to Qualifications Wales of certain events
B4	Notice to provide information to Qualifications Wales
B5	Representations regarding qualifications
B6	Cooperation with Qualifications Wales
B7	Awarding bodies' compliance with Regulatory Documents
B8	Compliance with undertakings given to Qualifications Wales

C	Third parties
C1	Arrangements with third parties
C2	Arrangements with Centres
C3	Arrangements with publishers

	Part 2 – The Regulated Qualification
D	General requirements for Regulated Qualifications
D1	Fitness for purpose of qualifications
D2	Accessibility of qualifications
D3	Reviewing approach
D4	Responding to enquiries and complaints procedures
D5	Compliance of qualifications with Regulatory Documents
D6	Management of the change in the status of qualifications or withdrawal of qualifications
D7	Making available information to help meet Teachers' needs
D8	Awarding Approved Qualifications outside of Wales
D9	Welsh-medium qualifications

E	Design and development of qualifications
E1	Qualifications having an objective and support
E2	Requirements on qualification titling
E3	Publication of a qualification specification
E4	Designing an assessment
E5	Assurance that qualifications comply with the Conditions
E6	Submitting qualifications to QiW
E7	Total Qualification Time
E8	Credit
E9	Qualification and Component levels
E10	Recognition of Prior Learning

F	Providing qualifications to purchasers
F1	Information on fees of qualifications
F2	Packaging qualifications with other products or services
F3	Invoicing

G	Setting and delivering the assessment
G1	Setting the assessment
G2	Language of the assessment
G3	Use of language and stimulus materials
G4	Maintaining confidentiality of assessment materials
G5	Registration of Learners
G6	Arrangements for Reasonable Adjustments
G7	Arrangements for Special Consideration
G8	Completion of the assessment
G9	Delivering the assessment

H	From marking to issuing results
H1	Marking the assessment
H2	Centre Assessment Standards Scrutiny where an assessment is marked by a Centre
H3	Monitoring the specified levels of attainment for a qualification
H4	Adjudication by Qualifications Wales of specified levels of attainment for a qualification
H5	Results for a qualification must be based on sufficient evidence
H6	Issuing results

I	Appeals and certificates
I1	Appeals process
I2	Compliance with Qualifications Wales' appeals and complaints process
I3	The design and content of certificates
I4	Issuing certificates and replacement certificates

J	Interpretation and definitions
J1	Interpretation and definitions

Part 1 – The awarding body

Section A – Governance

Condition A1 – Suitability for continuing recognition

Suitability for continuing recognition

A1.1 An awarding body must not, by means of any act or omission which has or is likely to have an Adverse Effect, render itself unsuitable to continue to be recognised for the award of a relevant qualification.

A1.2 For the purposes of Condition A1.1, an act or omission may include, in particular, one which results in the awarding body:

- (a) being convicted of a criminal offence;
- (b) being held by a court or any professional, regulatory, or government body to have breached any provision of [Competition Law](#), [Equalities Law](#), or [Data Protection Law](#);
- (c) being held by a court or any professional, regulatory, or government body to have breached a provision of any other legislation or any regulatory obligation to which it is subject;
- (d) becoming subject to an [Insolvency Event](#); or
- (e) becoming subject to corporate financial restructuring.

Inactive awarding bodies

A1.3 An awarding body must:

- (a) ensure that, within two years of first being recognised for the award of qualifications, it has submitted directly to [QiW](#) a qualification that meets its [Conditions of Recognition](#); and
- (b) take all reasonable steps to ensure that, once it has complied with Condition A1.3(a), it awards a qualification in a way that complies with its [Conditions of Recognition](#) at least once in every two-year period.

Ensuring the suitability of Senior Officers

- A1.4 An awarding body must ensure that each of its [Senior Officers](#) is at all times a person suitable to be engaged in that role in an awarding body that is recognised for the award of the relevant qualifications.
- A1.5 For the purposes of Condition A1.4, a [Senior Officer](#) may, in particular, be unsuitable for that role by virtue of:
- (a) any criminal convictions held by him or her;
 - (b) any finding by a court or any professional, regulatory, or government body that he or she has breached a provision of any legislation or any regulatory obligation to which he or she is subject;
 - (c) any proceedings in bankruptcy or any individual financial arrangements to which he or she is or has been subject;
 - (d) any disqualification from holding the directorship of a company or from public office; or
 - (e) any finding of malpractice or maladministration, in relation to a qualification (whether a [Regulated Qualification](#) or a qualification which is not regulated), to which he or she is or has been subject.

Condition A2 – Establishment in the UK, Gibraltar, the EU or the EFTA

A2.1 An awarding body must ensure that it at all times:

- (a) is ordinarily resident in the UK, Gibraltar or a member state of the European Union or the European Free Trade Association; or
- (b) has a substantial presence, in the UK, Gibraltar or a member state of the European Union or the European Free Trade Association.

Condition A3 – Safeguards on Change of Control

Duty on Change of Control

- A3.1 Where there is a [Change of Control](#) in relation to an awarding body, it must:
- (a) take all reasonable steps to ensure that the [Change of Control](#) does not have an [Adverse Effect](#);
 - (b) [Procure](#) that every other relevant person takes all reasonable steps to ensure that the [Change of Control](#) does not have an [Adverse Effect](#); and
 - (c) put in place a plan designed to ensure that the interests of [Learners](#) will be protected.

Condition A4 – Conflicts of Interest

Identifying Conflicts of Interest

- A4.1 An awarding body must identify and monitor –
- (a) all [Conflicts of Interest](#) which relate to it; and
 - (b) any scenario in which it is reasonably foreseeable that any such [Conflict of Interest](#) will arise in the future.
- A4.2 An awarding body must establish and maintain an up to date record of all [Conflicts of Interest](#) which relate to it.

Managing Conflicts of Interest

- A4.3 An awarding body must take all reasonable steps to ensure that no [Conflict of Interest](#) which relates to it has an [Adverse Effect](#).
- A4.4 Where such a [Conflict of Interest](#) has had an [Adverse Effect](#), the awarding body must take all reasonable steps to mitigate the [Adverse Effect](#) as far as possible and correct it.

Interests in assessment

- A4.5 An awarding body must take all reasonable steps to avoid any part of the assessment of a [Learner](#) (including by way of [Centre Assessment Standards Scrutiny](#)) being undertaken by any person who has a personal interest in the result of the assessment.

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A4.6 Where, having taken all such reasonable steps, an assessment by such a person cannot be avoided, the awarding body must make arrangements for the relevant part of the assessment to be subject to scrutiny by another person.

The written Conflict of Interest policy

A4.7 An awarding body must establish, maintain, and at all times comply with an up to date written [Conflict of Interest](#) policy, which must include procedures on how the awarding body intends to comply with the requirements of this Condition.

A4.8 When requested to do so by Qualifications Wales in writing, an awarding body must promptly submit to Qualifications Wales its [Conflict of Interest](#) policy, and must subsequently ensure that the policy complies with any requirements which Qualifications Wales has communicated to it in writing.

To support compliance with Condition A4, we have published [guidance](#) for awarding bodies on [Conflicts of Interest](#).

Condition A5 – Availability of adequate resources and arrangements

Ensuring the ability to develop, deliver and award qualifications

A5.1 An awarding body must:

- (a) ensure that it has the capacity to undertake the development, delivery and award of qualifications which it makes available, or proposes to make available, in a way that complies with its [Conditions of Recognition](#); and
- (b) take all reasonable steps to ensure that it undertakes the development, delivery and award of those qualifications efficiently.

A5.2 For the purposes of Condition A5.1, an awarding body must establish and maintain:

- (a) arrangements which will ensure that it retains at all times a [Workforce](#) of appropriate size and competence;
- (b) arrangements for the retention of data which will ensure that adequate information is available to it at all times;

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- (c) arrangements which will ensure that sufficient technical equipment and support is available to it at all times;
- (d) appropriate management resources; and
- (e) appropriate systems of planning and internal control.

A5.3 For the purposes of Condition A5.1 and A5.2, an awarding body must also:

- (a) regularly review its ongoing resource requirements and make appropriate changes to take into account the findings of each review; and
- (b) adequately plan any new developments which it proposes to introduce, and allocate sufficient resources to ensure that such developments are effectively introduced.

Ensuring financial viability

A5.4 An awarding body must ensure that it will have available sufficient financial resources and facilities to enable it to develop, deliver and award qualifications in a way that complies with its [Conditions of Recognition](#) until at least the time by which every [Learner](#) for a qualification it makes available has had the opportunity to complete that qualification.

Condition A6 – Identification and management of risks

Identifying risks

A6.1 An awarding body must take all reasonable steps to identify the risk of the occurrence of any incident which could have an [Adverse Effect](#).

Preventing incidents or mitigating their effect

A6.2 Where such a risk is identified, the awarding body must take all reasonable steps to:

- (a) prevent the incident from occurring or, where it cannot be prevented, reduce the risk of that incident occurring as far as is possible; and
- (b) prevent any [Adverse Effect](#) that the incident could have were it to occur or, where it cannot be prevented, mitigate that [Adverse Effect](#) as far as possible.

Contingency plan

- A6.3 An awarding body must establish, maintain, and at all times comply with, an up to date written contingency plan.
- A6.4 A contingency plan must be of sufficient detail and quality to allow the awarding body to mitigate, as far as possible, the [Adverse Effect](#) of any incident which has been identified by the awarding body as having a risk of occurring.

To support compliance with Condition A6, we have published [guidance](#) for awarding bodies on contingency planning.

Condition A7 – Management of incidents

- A7.1 Where any incident occurs which could have an [Adverse Effect](#), an awarding body must (whether or not it has previously identified a risk of that incident occurring) promptly take all reasonable steps to:
- (a) prevent the [Adverse Effect](#) and, where any [Adverse Effect](#) occurs, mitigate it as far as possible and correct it; and
 - (b) give priority to the provision of assessments which accurately differentiate between [Learners](#) on the basis of the level of attainment they have demonstrated and to the accurate and timely award of qualifications.

Condition A8 – Malpractice and maladministration

Preventing malpractice and maladministration

- A8.1 An awarding body must take all reasonable steps to prevent the occurrence of any malpractice or maladministration in the development, delivery and award of qualifications which it makes available or proposes to make available.

Investigating and managing the effect of malpractice and maladministration

- A8.2 Where any such malpractice or maladministration is suspected by an awarding body or alleged by any other person, and where there are reasonable grounds for that suspicion or allegation, the awarding body must -
- (a) so far as possible, establish whether or not the malpractice or maladministration has occurred; and

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- (b) promptly take all reasonable steps to prevent any [Adverse Effect](#) to which it may give rise and, where any such [Adverse Effect](#) occurs, mitigate it as far as possible and correct it.

Procedures relating to malpractice and maladministration

- A8.3 For the purposes of this Condition, an awarding body must -
- (a) establish, maintain, and at all times comply with an up to date written procedure for the investigation of suspected or alleged malpractice or maladministration; and
 - (b) ensure that such investigations are carried out rigorously, effectively, and by persons of appropriate competence who have no personal interest in their outcome.
- A8.4 Where a [Centre](#) undertakes any part of the delivery of a qualification which an awarding body makes available, the awarding body must take all reasonable steps to keep under review the arrangements put in place by that [Centre](#) for preventing and investigating malpractice and maladministration.
- A8.5 An awarding body must, following a request from such a [Centre](#), provide guidance to the [Centre](#) as to how best to prevent, investigate, and deal with malpractice and maladministration.

Dealing with malpractice and maladministration

- A8.6 Where an awarding body establishes that any malpractice or maladministration has occurred in the development, delivery or award of qualifications which it makes available, or proposes to make available, it must promptly take all reasonable steps to:
- (a) prevent that malpractice or maladministration from recurring; and
 - (b) take action against those responsible which is proportionate to the gravity and scope of the occurrence, or seek the cooperation of third parties in taking such action.
- A8.7 Where an awarding body has any cause to believe that an occurrence of malpractice or maladministration, or any connected occurrence:

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- (a) may affect a [Centre](#) undertaking any part of the delivery of a qualification which an awarding body makes available, it must inform that [Centre](#);
- (b) may affect another awarding body, it must inform that awarding body.

To support compliance with Condition A8, we have published [guidance](#) for awarding bodies on malpractice and maladministration.

Section B – The awarding body and Qualifications

Condition B1 – The role of the Responsible Officer

Appointing a Responsible Officer

- B1.1 An awarding body must ensure that an individual is at all times appointed to act as its [Responsible Officer](#).
- B1.2 The awarding body must ensure that Qualifications Wales is informed in writing of the name of the person from time to time appointed as its [Responsible Officer](#).

The role of the Responsible Officer

- B1.3 An awarding body must ensure that its [Responsible Officer](#) serves as the authoritative point of contact for Qualifications Wales in relation to all activities undertaken by the awarding body which are of interest to Qualifications Wales in accordance with [the Act](#), including in particular:
- (a) any matters relating to its compliance with its [Conditions of Recognition](#);
 - (b) its ability to undertake the efficient development, delivery and award of qualifications;
 - (c) the standards of qualifications that it makes available or proposes to make available;
 - (d) any matters which may affect public confidence in qualifications and/or the Welsh qualification system; and
 - (e) the accessibility of qualifications it makes available, including its compliance with [Equalities Law](#).
- B1.4 An awarding body must ensure that, where –
- (a) its [Responsible Officer](#) makes a statement to Qualifications Wales (other than one which is required to be made by the [Governing Body](#)), Qualifications Wales will be entitled to rely on that statement as being accurate and made on behalf of the awarding body; and

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- (b) Qualifications Wales gives to its [Responsible Officer](#) a statement, request, or notice addressed to the awarding body, Qualifications Wales will be entitled to treat that statement, request, or notice as having been given to the awarding body.

B1.5 An awarding body must ensure that its [Responsible Officer](#) is effective in the role, including, in particular, by ensuring the [Responsible Officer](#) has sufficient authority to carry out that role.

To support compliance with Condition B1, we have published [guidance](#) for awarding bodies on the role of a [Responsible Officer](#).

Condition B2 – The annual statement of compliance to Qualifications Wales

Provision of the statement of compliance

B2.1 An awarding body must submit to Qualifications Wales an annual statement of compliance.

B2.2 The statement of compliance must be:

- (a) made in any form and on any date as may be notified to the awarding body by Qualifications Wales;
- (b) accurate;
- (c) formally approved by the [Governing Body](#) of the awarding body; and
- (d) signed by the chair of the [Governing Body](#) and the [Responsible Officer](#).

Content of the statement of compliance

B2.3 The statement of compliance must specify either –

- (a) that the awarding body is fully compliant with its [Conditions of Recognition](#) at the date of the statement; or
- (b) that it is not so compliant, in which case the statement must describe each instance of non-compliance and the date by which the awarding body expects to rectify the failure.

B2.4 The statement of compliance must also specify either:

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- (a) that the awarding body has no cause to believe that it will be likely to fail to comply with any of its [Conditions of Recognition](#) during the period of twelve months immediately following the date of the statement; or
- (b) that it does have such a cause for belief, in which case the statement must describe each instance of potential non-compliance, the ground for believing it to be likely to occur, and the steps being taken by the awarding body in relation to it.

Condition B3 – Notification to Qualifications Wales of certain events

Notification where an event could have an Adverse Effect

B3.1 An awarding body must promptly notify Qualifications Wales when it has cause to believe that any event has occurred or is likely to occur which could have an [Adverse Effect](#).

Specific examples of events which could have an Adverse Effect

- B3.2 For the purposes of this Condition, such events may in particular include those where:
- (a) there is a substantial error in the awarding body's assessment materials;
 - (b) there has been a loss or theft of, or a breach of confidentiality in, any assessment materials;
 - (c) the awarding body cannot supply assessment materials for a scheduled assessment date;
 - (d) there has been a failure in the delivery of an assessment which threatens [Assessors'](#) ability to differentiate accurately and consistently between the levels of attainment demonstrated by [Learners](#);
 - (e) the awarding body will be unable to meet a published date for the issue of results or the award of a qualification;
 - (f) the awarding body has issued incorrect results or certificates;

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- (g) the awarding body believes that there has been an incident of malpractice or maladministration, which could either invalidate the award of a qualification which it makes available or could affect another awarding body;
- (h) the awarding body has (for any reason, whether inside or outside its control) incurred an increase in costs which it anticipates will result in an increase in its fees of significantly more than the rate of inflation;
- (i) the awarding body is named as a party in any criminal or civil proceedings or is subjected to a regulatory investigation or sanction by any professional, regulatory, or government body; or
- (j) a [Senior Officer](#) of the awarding body is a party to criminal proceedings (other than minor driving offences), is subject to any action for disqualification as a company director, or is subject to disciplinary proceedings by any professional, regulatory, or government body.

Notification of specified events in all cases

B3.3 An awarding body must promptly notify Qualifications Wales if it is, or if it has cause to believe that it is likely to be, subject to:

- (a) a material change in its governance structure or legal status;
- (b) a [Change of Control](#);
- (c) an [Insolvency Event](#); or
- (d) any bankruptcy proceedings

B3.4 An awarding body must promptly notify Qualifications Wales if it proposes to make available a qualification which is substantially different in type or content to any which it has previously made available.

Further requirements on the timing of notifications

B3.5 When it notifies Qualifications Wales of an event in accordance with this Condition, or as soon as possible afterward, it must also notify Qualifications Wales of any steps that it has taken or intends to take to prevent the event having an [Adverse Effect](#) or to correct or mitigate that [Adverse Effect](#) if it occurs.

- B3.6 An awarding body must not delay making a notification to Qualifications Wales in accordance with this Condition because relevant information is unavailable, but must notify based on all the information that it has and provide further information to Qualifications Wales once it becomes available.

Condition B4 – Notice to provide information to Qualifications Wales

- B4.1 Where Qualifications Wales serves a written notice on an awarding body requiring an awarding body to provide it with any information that it seeks for the purpose of performing its functions, the awarding body must:
- (a) comply with the terms of that notice; and
 - (b) ensure that all information provided to Qualifications Wales in response to such a notice is accurate and complete.
- B4.2 Any such notice may include terms which:
- (a) specify the time within which the information is to be provided;
 - (b) specify a form in which the information is to be provided;
 - (c) require that the information is accompanied by such supporting documents or data as may be described; and
 - (d) require an awarding body to provide information which is already in its possession, or which has to be created or obtained by it.
- B4.3 An awarding body must ensure that all information provided to Qualifications Wales in accordance with this Condition is accurate and complete.

Condition B5 – Representations regarding qualifications

Statements regarding qualifications which are not Regulated Qualifications

- B5.1 An awarding body must not (and must take all reasonable steps to ensure that any person connected with it does not) make any statement that would be likely to lead [Users of qualifications](#) to believe that a qualification is:
- (a) a [Regulated Qualification](#) when it is not a [Regulated Qualification](#);

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- (b) an [Approved Qualification](#) when it is not an [Approved qualification](#); or
- (c) a [Designated qualification](#) when it is not a [Designated qualification](#).

Advertising and promotion of qualifications

B5.2 An awarding body must not (and must take all reasonable steps to ensure that any person connected with it does not) advertise or promote its qualifications in a manner that is likely to be misleading to [Users of qualifications](#).

Use of the Qualifications Wales logo

B5.3 An awarding body must ensure that its use of the [Qualifications Wales Logo](#) complies with any [Logo Requirements](#) and [Certificate Requirements](#) which may be published by Qualifications Wales and revised from time to time.

Condition B6 – Cooperation with Qualifications Wales

B6.1 An awarding body must provide Qualifications Wales with all such assistance as it may request for the purpose of undertaking, in accordance with its functions, an investigation into, or other monitoring in relation to, the activities of that awarding body.

Condition B7 – Awarding bodies' compliance with Regulatory Documents

B7.1 Where a [Regulatory Document](#) requires an awarding body to take or to refrain from taking any action, the awarding body must comply with that requirement.

B7.2 Where a [Regulatory Document](#) sets out guidelines or principles of good practice in relation to any behaviour on the part of an awarding body, the awarding body must have regard to those guidelines or principles before it engages in that behaviour.

Condition B8 – Compliance with undertakings given to Qualifications Wales

B8.1 An awarding body must comply with the requirements of any undertaking which:

- (a) it has given to Qualifications Wales;

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- (b) is in writing; and
- (c) states that it is an undertaking given in accordance with this Condition.

Section C – Third parties

Condition C1 – Arrangements with third parties

- C1.1 Where an awarding body arranges for a third party to undertake, on its behalf, any part of the development, delivery or award of qualifications which the awarding body makes available, or proposes to make available, it must:
- (a) ensure that the arrangements which it establishes with that third party enable the awarding body to develop, deliver and award qualifications in a way that complies with its [Conditions of Recognition](#); and
 - (b) monitor and, where appropriate, enforce such arrangements so as to ensure that it is able to develop, deliver and award qualifications in a way that complies with its [Conditions of Recognition](#).
- C1.2 An awarding body must take all reasonable steps to ensure that, in making any such arrangements, it does not impose unnecessary or unduly burdensome requirements on third parties.

Condition C2 – Arrangements with Centres

- C2.1 Where a [Centre](#) undertakes any part of the delivery of a qualification on behalf of an awarding body, this Condition applies in addition to the requirements in Condition C1.
- C2.2 Where this Condition applies, an awarding body must ensure that arrangements between it and the [Centre](#) include a written and enforceable agreement.
- C2.3 That agreement must, in particular, include provisions which –
- (a) require the [Centre](#) to take all reasonable steps to ensure that the awarding body is able to comply with its [Conditions of Recognition](#);
 - (b) require the [Centre](#) to take all reasonable steps to comply with requests for information or documents made by the awarding body or Qualifications Wales as soon as practicable;
 - (c) require the [Centre](#) to assist the awarding body in carrying out any reasonable monitoring activities and to assist Qualifications Wales in any investigations made for the purposes of performing its functions;

- (d) set out all the requirements with which the [Centre](#) must comply in order to continue to deliver the qualification;
- (e) establish a sanctions policy to be applied in the event that the [Centre](#) fails to comply with these requirements;
- (f) require the [Centre](#) to retain a [Workforce](#) of appropriate size and competence to undertake the delivery of the qualification as required by the awarding body;
- (g) require the [Centre](#) to have available sufficient managerial and other resources to enable it effectively and efficiently to undertake the delivery of the qualification as required by the awarding body;
- (h) require the [Centre](#) to undertake the delivery of the qualification required by the awarding body in accordance with [Equalities Law](#);
- (i) require the [Centre](#) to operate a complaints handling procedure or appeals process for the benefit of [Learners](#);
- (j) set out any arrangements in relation to [Centre Assessment Standards Scrutiny](#) that the awarding body will undertake or that will be undertaken on its behalf, and require the [Centre](#) to retain any data (including evidence generated by [Learners](#) and marked by the [Centre](#)) that the awarding body considers necessary to allow it to undertake that scrutiny effectively;
- (k) specify a process to be followed in any withdrawal of the [Centre](#) (whether voluntary or not) from its role in delivering a qualification; and
- (l) require the [Centre](#) to take all reasonable steps to protect the interests of [Learners](#) in the case of such a withdrawal.

C2.4 In the event that the [Centre](#) withdraws from its role in delivering a qualification, the awarding body must take all reasonable steps to protect the interests of [Learners](#).

C2.5 The awarding body must, in respect of the parts of the delivery of qualifications which the [Centre](#) undertakes:

- (a) provide effective guidance to the [Centre](#); and

- (b) make available to the [Centre](#) any information which, for the purposes of that delivery, the [Centre](#) may reasonably require to be provided by the awarding body.

C2.6 An awarding body must:

- (a) in respect of any approved GCSE qualification or GCE qualification which it makes available, take all reasonable steps promptly to ensure that:
 - (i) the attention of each [Centre](#) with which it has an agreement is drawn to the document published by Qualifications Wales, and updated from time to time, entitled '[Guidance on contingency assessment arrangements for approved GCSEs, AS and A levels](#)', and
 - (ii) each such [Centre](#) is notified of any updates to that document, and
- (b) in respect of any other qualification which it makes available:
 - (i) consider whether it is appropriate for a [Centre](#) to gather evidence during the academic year of the level of attainment of each [Learner](#) so as to support resilience in awarding that qualification should normal assessments for it be disrupted; and
 - (ii) where it does consider such evidence gathering to be appropriate, provide guidance to the [Centre](#) in relation to that evidence.

Condition C3 - Arrangements with publishers

C3.1 Where an awarding body has in place an endorsement process the awarding body must:

- (a) take all reasonable steps to ensure that the endorsement process does not have an [Adverse Effect](#); and
- (b) publish the criteria which it uses to decide whether or not to endorse a particular resource.

C3.2 For the purposes of this Condition, an 'endorsement process' is a process by which the awarding body endorses resources which are designed to support the preparation of [Learners](#) and persons likely to become [Learners](#) for assessments for a qualification which it makes available or proposes to make available.

Part 2 – The Regulated Qualification

Section D – General requirements for Regulated Qualifications

Condition D1 – Fitness for purpose of qualifications

- D1.1 An awarding body must ensure that each qualification which it makes available is fit for purpose.
- D1.2 A qualification will only be fit for purpose if that qualification, as far as possible, secures the requirements of:
- (a) [Validity](#);
 - (b) [Reliability](#);
 - (c) [Comparability](#);
 - (d) [Manageability](#); and
 - (e) [Minimising bias](#).
- D1.3 In any case where there is a conflict between two or more of the requirements in Condition D1.2, an awarding body must secure that it achieves a balance between those requirements that:
- (a) ensures compliance with its [Conditions of Recognition](#); and
 - (b) is objectively the optimum balance in relation to the particular qualification.

Condition D2 – Accessibility of qualifications

- D2.1 An awarding body must ensure that it complies with the requirements of [Equalities Law](#) in relation to each qualification which it makes available.
- D2.2 An awarding body must monitor qualifications which it makes available for any feature which could disadvantage a group of [Learners](#) who share a particular [Characteristic](#).

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D2.3 Where an awarding body has identified such a feature, it must:

- (a) remove any disadvantage which is unjustifiable; and
- (b) maintain a record of any disadvantage which it believes to be justifiable, setting out the reasons why in its opinion the disadvantage is justifiable.

Condition D3 – Reviewing approach

Review of approach

D3.1 An awarding body must keep under review, and must enhance where necessary, its approach to the development, delivery and award of qualifications, so as to assure itself that its approach remains at all times appropriate.

Evidence to inform approach

D3.2 An awarding body must –

- (a) have due regard to all information, comments and complaints received from [Users of qualifications](#) in relation to the development, delivery and award of qualifications; and
- (b) identify and give due regard to any credible evidence which suggests that a change in its approach to the development, delivery and award of qualifications is required in order to ensure that the approach remains appropriate.

D3.3 Where an event relating to an awarding body (or an event, of which it is or should be aware, relating to any other awarding body) has had an [Adverse Effect](#), the awarding body must review and revise where necessary its approach to the development, delivery and award of qualifications to ensure that its approach remains appropriate.

Condition D4 – Responding to enquiries and complaints procedures

Responding to enquiries from Users of qualifications

D4.1 An awarding body must answer accurately, fully and within a reasonable time any reasonable enquiries received by it from [Users of qualifications](#).

D4.2 Nothing in this Condition obliges an awarding body to disclose information if to do so would breach a duty of confidentiality or any other legal duty.

Complaints procedures

D4.3 An awarding body must establish, maintain, publish and at all times comply with a written complaints procedure.

D4.4 The complaints procedure must, in particular, include procedures and timescales for:

- (a) responding to complaints; and
- (b) dealing with the subject matter of complaints.

Condition D5 – Compliance of qualifications with Regulatory Documents

D5.1 An awarding body must ensure that in the development, delivery and award of any qualification which it makes available, or proposes to make available, it:

- (a) complies with any requirement relating to that qualification which is set out in a [Regulatory Document](#); and
- (b) has regard to any guidelines and principles of good practice relating to that qualification which are set out in a [Regulatory Document](#).

Condition D6 – Management of the change in the status of qualifications or withdrawal of qualifications

D6.1 For the purposes of this Condition, an awarding body withdraws a qualification at the point in time when it first:

- (a) ceases to register [Learners](#) for the qualification;
- (b) ceases to deliver or award that qualification to [Learners](#);
- (c) surrenders its recognition in respect of that qualification; or
- (d) has its recognition withdrawn by Qualifications Wales in respect of that qualification.

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- D6.2 For the purposes of this Condition, an awarding body changes the status of an [Approved Qualification](#) at the point in time when:
- (a) its [Approval](#) in respect of that qualification expires;
 - (b) it surrenders its [Approval](#) in respect of that qualification; or
 - (c) it has its [Approval](#) withdrawn by Qualifications Wales in respect of that qualification.
- D6.3 For the purposes of this Condition, an awarding body changes the status of a [Designated Qualification](#) at the point in time when:
- (a) its [Designation](#) in respect of that qualification expires; or
 - (b) it has its [Designation](#) revoked by Qualifications Wales in respect of that qualification; or,
 - (c) in respect of that qualification, it changes the language(s) in which it is made available to [Learners](#).
- D6.4 For the purposes of this Condition, an awarding body changes the status of an [Other Regulated Qualification](#) at the point in time when it changes the language(s) in which it is made available to [Learners](#).
- D6.5 For the purposes of Conditions D6.3 (c) and D6.4, the requirements outlined in Conditions D6.6 - D6.9 will only apply in circumstances where such a change results in that qualification no longer being available in a language previously made available to [Learners](#).
- D6.6 Where an awarding body intends to, otherwise believes it to be likely that it will, or is obliged to, change the status or withdraw a qualification, it must take all reasonable steps to protect the interests of [Learners](#) in relation to that qualification.
- D6.7 An awarding body must give to Qualifications Wales reasonable notice of its anticipated change of status or withdrawal of a qualification, and must do so prior to the time at which it provides that information to any [Learners](#), [Centres](#), or purchasers of qualifications.

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D6.8 Where an awarding body intends to change a status or withdraw, or is obliged to change a status or withdraw, a qualification, it must:

- (a) promptly prepare, maintain, and comply with a written plan, which must specify how the interests of [Learners](#) in relation to that qualification will be protected; and
- (b) provide clear and accurate information about the change of status or withdrawal to [Learners](#), [Centres](#), and purchasers of qualifications who are likely to be affected by the change of status or withdrawal.

D6.9 An awarding body must ensure that any such plan which it prepares complies with any requirements which Qualifications Wales has communicated to it in writing.

To support compliance with Condition D6, we have published [guidance](#) for awarding bodies on management of the change in the status of qualifications or withdrawal of qualifications.

Condition D7 – Making available information to help meet Teachers’ needs

D7.1 In respect of each qualification which it makes available, an awarding body must ensure that there is available to each [Teacher](#) any information which, for the purpose of preparing [Learners](#) and persons likely to become [Learners](#) for assessments for that qualification, the [Teacher](#) may reasonably require to be provided by the awarding body.

Condition D8 - Awarding Approved Qualifications outside of Wales

D8.1 Where an awarding body awards an [Approved Qualification](#) by Qualifications Wales to [Learners](#) assessed wholly or mainly outside of Wales, and where the Qualifications Wales qualification [Approval](#) number and logo is used on certificates and other materials, the qualification certificate and other materials must include the following statement “Qualifications Wales regulates this qualification where it is awarded to [Learners](#) assessed wholly or mainly in Wales”.

D8.2 Where data is used to provide an aggregate statistical context for the award of an [Approved Qualification](#) by Qualifications Wales, this shall be based on candidates assessed wholly or mainly in Wales.

Condition D9 – Welsh-medium qualifications

Availability of Welsh-medium qualifications

- D9.1 An awarding body must make an [Approved Qualification](#) available in Welsh.
- D9.2 Where a [Designated Qualification](#) is made available to pre-16 [Learners](#), and in accordance with our [Designation Policy](#), such qualifications must be made available in Welsh from:
- (a) 1 September 2027, or
 - (b) any such date specified by Qualifications Wales
- whichever is the earliest.

Publication of Welsh-medium qualifications policy statement

- D9.3 An awarding body must publish, maintain, and comply with a policy statement which specifies whether or not it makes available, or proposes to make available qualifications in Welsh.
- D9.4 In any circumstances where the policy statement it has in place states that it makes available, or proposes to make available a qualification in Welsh, an awarding body must ensure that the policy statement enables it to comply with its [Conditions of Recognition](#).

Promoting the availability of, and facilitating access to, Welsh-medium qualifications

- D9.5 Where an awarding body makes available, or proposes to make available, a qualification in Welsh, it must promote the availability of, and facilitate access to, those qualifications.
- D9.6 For the purposes of Condition D9.5, 'promote' means any efforts made by an awarding body to raise awareness of the availability of Welsh-medium qualifications.
- D9.7 For the purposes of Condition D9.5, 'facilitate' means any actions taken by an awarding body to improve access to Welsh-medium qualifications.
- D9.8 An awarding body must ensure that it has arrangements for—

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- (a) overseeing the way it complies with Condition D9;
- (b) publishing its policy statement;
- (c) promoting the availability of, and facilitating access to its Welsh-medium qualifications; and
- (d) publishing a document that records those arrangements on its website.

D9.9 An awarding body must ensure that in making Welsh-medium qualifications available, and promoting the availability of, and facilitating access to them, in accordance with Conditions D9.1-D9.9, it complies with –

- (a) any requirements, and has regard to any [guidance](#), which may be published by Qualifications Wales and revised from time to time, and
- (b) any requirements which Qualifications Wales has communicated to it in writing.

Requirements relating to Welsh-medium qualifications

Condition D9.9 allows us to specify requirements in relation to Welsh-medium qualifications. We set out below our requirements for the purposes of Condition D9.9.

Requirements relating to the availability of Welsh-medium qualifications (Conditions D9.1-2)

- (a) When submitting its [Regulated Qualifications](#) to [QiW](#), an awarding body must include clear and accurate information on the language(s) in which the qualification is available (Welsh only/ English only / Welsh and English).
- (b) Where a [Regulated Qualification](#) is noted as being available in both Welsh and English, an awarding body must confirm whether the qualification is:
 - (i) Fully available in Welsh, or
 - (ii) Partially available in Welsh.

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- (c) Where a qualification is made fully available in Welsh, the following [Supporting Materials](#) must be made available in Welsh:
 - (i) the specification for the qualification, including any relevant terminology required for the qualification
 - (ii) all assessment materials to be completed by the [Learner](#)
 - (iii) specimen assessment materials, where applicable
 - (iv) any other materials that are made mandatory by the awarding body for the [Learner](#) to have the opportunity to obtain the qualification

- (d) Where a qualification is made partially available in Welsh, an awarding body must make the following [Supporting Materials](#) available for every unit and/or [Component](#) that is made available in Welsh:
 - (i) all assessment materials to be completed by the [Learner](#)
 - (ii) specimen assessment materials, where applicable
 - (iii) any other materials that are made mandatory by the awarding body for the [Learner](#) to have the opportunity to obtain the unit and/or [Component](#)

- (e) [Learners](#) undertaking a qualification in Welsh must not be disadvantaged compared to [Learners](#) completing the equivalent qualification in English.

Requirements relating to the publication of Welsh-medium qualifications policy statement (Conditions D9.3-4)

- (a) An awarding body publishes its policy statement in accordance with the rule of interpretation as set out in Condition J1.7.
- (b) An awarding body's published policy statement must be open, transparent, accurate and clear to [Users of qualifications](#).
- (c) As part of its arrangements with [Centres](#) in accordance with Condition C2, an awarding body shares its policy, or policies directly with them.

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- (d) Where an awarding body makes qualifications available to Welsh-medium and bilingual [Centres](#), an awarding body publishes its policy statement in Welsh and English.
- (e) An awarding body's published policy statement must explain the basis on which it has decided whether or not to make a qualification available in Welsh.
- (f) An awarding body's published policy statement must specify what aspects of the qualification, including [Supporting Materials](#), the awarding body will make available in Welsh.
- (g) An awarding body reviews its policy statement in line with its internally agreed policy review cycle.

Requirements relating to promoting the availability of, and facilitating access to, Welsh-medium qualifications (Conditions D9.5-7)

- (a) An awarding body must ensure that any promotional materials that it produces, whether in hard copy or digitally, which refers to the English form of the qualification must also state that the qualification is available in Welsh.
- (b) An awarding body must undertake annual activities in respect of every [Centre](#), either face-to-face or remotely. These include:
 - (i) raising awareness of the qualifications it makes available, or proposes to make available, in Welsh
 - (ii) identifying what Welsh-medium resources and supporting materials related to those qualifications would be reasonably expected to be provided by the awarding body
 - (iii) assessing the likely demand for qualifications in Welsh
 - (iv) identifying opportunities to improve access to its qualifications in Welsh
 - (v) identifying, where relevant and appropriate, specific qualifications to be prioritised for promotion, or specific audiences to be targeted

Section E – Design and development of qualifications

Condition E1 – Qualifications having an objective and support

Qualifications to have an objective

- E1.1 An awarding body must ensure that each qualification which it makes available or proposes to make available:
- (a) has a clear objective in accordance with this Condition; and
 - (b) meets that objective.
- E1.2 The objective of a qualification must be such as to lead to a benefit for [Learners](#) who have reached a specified level of attainment, and may include:
- (a) preparing [Learners](#) to progress to a qualification in the same subject area but at a higher [Level](#) or requiring more specific knowledge, skills and understanding;
 - (b) preparing [Learners](#) to progress to a qualification in another subject area;
 - (c) meeting relevant programmes of learning;
 - (d) preparing [Learners](#) for employment;
 - (e) supporting a role in the workplace; or
 - (f) giving [Learners](#) personal growth and engagement in learning.

Qualifications to have support

- E1.3 Where an awarding body proposes to make available any new qualification, it:
- (a) must first consult [Users of qualifications](#) to ascertain whether there is support for the qualification; and
 - (b) may only make available the qualification where it has evidence of sufficient support from [Users of qualifications](#).
- E1.4 For the purposes of Condition E1.3, the following considerations will in particular be relevant in determining what constitutes sufficient support:

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- (a) the objective of the new qualification;
- (b) whether the new qualification is intended to facilitate a particular route of progression for [Learners](#); and
- (c) the number of [Learners](#) that the awarding body reasonably estimates is likely to take the new qualification.

E1.5 For the purposes of this Condition, [Users of qualifications](#) will be deemed to support a new qualification if the prevailing view of those [Users of qualifications](#) is that the qualification would provide a benefit to [Learners](#).

Condition E2 – Requirements on qualification titling

E2.1 An awarding body must ensure that the title on [QiW](#) of any qualification which it makes available includes the following information:

- (a) the name of the awarding body;
- (b) the [Level](#) of the qualification;
- (c) the type of qualification (where the qualification has a type);
- (d) a concise indication of the content of the qualification; and
- (e) any endorsement known at the time the qualification is submitted to [QiW](#).

E2.2 An awarding body must, in addition:

- (a) ensure that the title on [QiW](#) reflects the knowledge, skills and understanding which will be assessed as part of the qualification; and
- (b) take all reasonable steps to ensure that the title allows [Users of qualifications](#) to identify similar units or qualifications which it makes available or are made available by other awarding bodies.

E2.3 An awarding body must ensure that each qualification which it makes available, or proposes to make available, has a title which it uses consistently in its advertising and in its communications with [Users of qualifications](#).

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- E2.4 An awarding body must ensure that the titles of qualifications which it makes available, or proposes to make available, are not misleading to [Users of qualifications](#).
- E2.5 An awarding body must ensure that it amends the title on [QiW](#) for a qualification which it makes available when it makes any revision to a level assigned to that qualification.

Condition E3 – Publication of a qualification specification

- E3.1 An awarding body must, before first making available a qualification, publish a specification for that qualification.
- E3.2 An awarding body must ensure that the specification for a qualification sets out:
- (a) the qualification's objective;
 - (b) any other qualification which a [Learner](#) must have completed before taking the qualification;
 - (c) any prior knowledge, skills or understanding which the [Learner](#) is required to have before taking the qualification;
 - (d) any units which a [Learner](#) must have completed before the qualification will be awarded and any optional routes;
 - (e) any other requirements which a [Learner](#) must have satisfied before the [Learner](#) will be assessed or before the qualification will be awarded;
 - (f) the knowledge, skills and understanding which will be assessed as part of the qualification (giving a clear indication of their coverage and depth);
 - (g) the method of any assessment and any associated requirements relating to it;
 - (h) the criteria against which [Learners'](#) levels of attainment will be measured (such as assessment criteria or exemplars);
 - (i) any specimen assessment materials;
 - (j) any specified levels of attainment;

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- (k) the number of hours which it has assigned to that qualification for each of [Total Qualification Time](#) and [Guided Learning](#);
- (l) any value for credit which it has assigned to that qualification and any [Component](#) of that qualification; and
- (m) the [Level](#) or [Levels](#) which it has assigned to that qualification and any [Component](#) of that qualification.

E3.3 An awarding body must ensure that the specification for a qualification is clear, accurate and communicates, to the reasonable and informed person:

- (a) what the qualification requires of the [Learner](#) in respect of each of the details that is applicable to the qualification; and
- (b) how the qualification is fit for purpose.

Amendments to the specification

E3.4 An awarding body must promptly amend the specification for a qualification following any revision by it of:

- (a) the number of hours which it has assigned for [Total Qualification Time](#) or [Guided Learning](#);
- (b) the [Level](#) or [Levels](#) which it has assigned to that qualification or any [Component](#) of that qualification; or
- (c) any value for credit which it has assigned to that qualification or any [Component](#) of that qualification.

E3.5 Where an awarding body has amended the specification for a qualification it must publish that specification as amended.

Condition E4 – Designing an assessment

E4.1 In designing an assessment for a qualification which it makes available, or proposes to make available, an awarding body must ensure that it has or obtains adequate resources to enable the assessment to be delivered effectively and efficiently.

E4.2 In designing such an assessment, an awarding body must in addition ensure that the assessment:

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- (a) is fit for purpose;
- (b) can be delivered efficiently;
- (c) allows [Centres](#) to develop cost effective arrangements for its delivery, using only the resources which would be reasonably expected to be required or which are provided by the awarding body;
- (d) permits [Reasonable Adjustments](#) to be made, while minimising the need for them;
- (e) allows each [Learner](#) to generate evidence which can be authenticated;
- (f) allows each specified level of attainment detailed in the specification to be reached by a [Learner](#) who has attained the required level of knowledge, skills and understanding; and
- (g) allows [Assessors](#) to be able to differentiate accurately and consistently between a range of attainments by [Learners](#).

Condition E5 – Assurance that qualifications comply with the Conditions

E5.1 Before submitting a qualification to [QiW](#), an awarding body must:

- (a) review that qualification; and
- (b) assure itself that the qualification complies with the requirements of its [Conditions of Recognition](#) and any relevant [Approval Criteria](#), making any changes to the qualification which are necessary for that purpose.

Condition E6 – Submitting qualifications to QiW

E6.1 An awarding body must not make available a qualification unless it has first submitted that qualification to [QiW](#).

E6.2 An awarding body must ensure that its submission of a qualification to [QiW](#):

- (a) is in a form that may be published by Qualifications Wales and revised from time to time;
- (b) contains only accurate information; and

- (c) contains all information about the qualification that is requested.

Condition E7 – Total Qualification Time

- E7.1 In respect of each qualification which it makes available or proposes to make available, an awarding body must assign to that qualification a number of hours for:
- (a) [Total Qualification Time](#); and
 - (b) [Guided Learning](#).
- E7.2 An awarding body must ensure that the number of hours it assigns to a qualification for [Total Qualification Time](#) includes the number of hours which it has assigned to that qualification for [Guided Learning](#).
- E7.3 In assigning [Total Qualification Time](#), an awarding body must have due regard to any relevant information which is reasonably available to the awarding body and record its determination, the rationale and the supporting evidence used both to initially assign and subsequently review the determination.
- E7.4 An awarding body must:
- (a) keep under review the number of hours it has assigned to each qualification for each of [Total Qualification Time](#) and [Guided Learning](#);
 - (b) in particular, review the numbers of hours assigned following the issue by Qualifications Wales of any [Total Qualification Time Criteria](#); and
 - (c) revise that number of hours if appropriate.
- E7.5 Following any review by Qualifications Wales of the number assigned to a qualification in respect of [Total Qualification Time](#) or [Guided Learning](#), an awarding body must revise that number in any manner required by Qualifications Wales.

Interpretation

- E7.6 For the purposes of this Condition references to a 'qualification' are references to the qualification as a whole and not to individual units.

Condition E8 – Credit

- E8.1 An awarding body may assign a value for credit to a qualification, or a [Component](#) of qualification, which it makes available or proposes to make available.
- E8.2 Where an awarding body assigns a value for credit to a qualification, that value must be equal to one tenth of the [Total Qualification Time](#) assigned to that qualification, rounded to the nearest whole number.
- E8.3 Where an awarding body makes any revision to the number of hours which it has assigned to a qualification in respect of any element of [Total Qualification Time](#), it must:
- (a) review each value for credit which it has assigned to that qualification and any [Component](#) of that qualification; and
 - (b) revise that value if appropriate.

Condition E9 – Qualification and Component Levels

- E9.1 An awarding body must assign one or more [Levels](#) to each qualification which it makes available or proposes to make available.
- E9.2 Where an awarding body assigns a value for credit to a [Component](#) of a qualification which it makes available or proposes to make available, it must assign a [Level](#) to that [Component](#).
- E9.3 An awarding body must comply with any requirements, and have regard to any guidance, which may be published by Qualifications Wales and revised from time to time in assigning:
- (a) a [Level](#) to a qualification;
 - (b) more than one [Level](#) to a qualification; and
 - (c) a [Level](#) to a [Component](#) of a qualification.
- E9.4 An awarding body must:
- (a) keep under review each [Level](#) which it has assigned to a qualification or a [Component](#) of a qualification;

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- (b) in particular, review that [Level](#) following any revision by Qualifications Wales of any requirements published under this Condition; and
- (c) revise that [Level](#) if appropriate.

E9.5 Following any review by Qualifications Wales of a [Level](#) assigned to a qualification or a [Component](#) of a qualification an awarding body must revise that [Level](#) in any manner specified by Qualifications Wales.

Management of the revision of a Level assigned to a qualification

E9.6 An awarding body must give to Qualifications Wales notice by 31 December of that year of its anticipated revision of a [Level](#) assigned to a qualification, and must do so prior to the time at which it provides that information to any [Users of the qualification](#).

E9.7 Where an awarding body intends to revise, or is obliged to revise, a [Level](#) assigned to a qualification, it must either:

- (a) withdraw that qualification; or
- (b) follow the process outlined in Conditions E9.8 and E9.9

and must give to Qualifications Wales reasonable notice of which of these two courses it intends to follow.

E9.8 Where an awarding body intends to revise, or is obliged to revise, a [Level](#) assigned to a qualification, and does not intend to withdraw that qualification, it must:

- (a) take all reasonable steps to protect the interests of [Learners](#) in relation to that qualification;
- (b) promptly prepare, maintain, and comply with a written revision plan, which must specify how the interests of [Learners](#) in relation to that qualification will be protected; and
- (c) provide clear and accurate information about the revision to [Users of the qualification](#) who are likely to be affected by the revision.

E9.9 An awarding body must ensure that any revision plan which it prepares complies with any requirements which Qualifications Wales has communicated to it in writing.

Condition E10 – Recognition of Prior Learning

E10.1 An awarding body must publish, maintain and comply with a policy which specifies whether or not it recognises prior learning.

Further requirements where an awarding body permits Recognition of Prior Learning

E10.2 In any circumstances where the policy it has in place permits the [Recognition of Prior Learning](#), an awarding body must ensure that policy enables it to award qualifications in a way that complies with its [Conditions of Recognition](#).

To support compliance with Condition E10, we have published [guidance](#) for awarding bodies on [Recognition of Prior Learning](#).

Section F – Providing qualifications to purchasers

Condition F1 – Information on fees of qualifications

Making fee information available

- F1.1 In respect of each of its qualifications that it makes available for purchase, an awarding body must publish –
- (a) where possible, the [Standard Qualification Fee](#);
 - (b) where applicable, any [Package Fees](#);
 - (c) where possible, any [Associated Learner Fees](#);
 - (d) where possible, any [Mandatory Centre Fees](#); and
 - (e) where it is not possible for the awarding body to calculate a [Standard Qualification Fee](#), [Associated Learner Fees](#) or any [Mandatory Centre Fees](#), a statement of the method by which these fees are calculated.
- F1.2 An awarding body must ensure that the information which it publishes, as required by Condition F1.1, is –
- (a) kept up to date;
 - (b) clear to a potential purchaser; and
 - (c) easily accessible to any potential purchaser without that person having to request it from, or provide any information to, the awarding body.

Making fee information available to satisfy the planning requirements of purchasers

- F1.3 An awarding body must take all reasonable steps to publish the information required by Condition F1.1 sufficiently far in advance of the time at which the qualifications to which that information relates will be made available to [Learners](#) as to satisfy the reasonable planning requirements of potential purchasers.

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- F1.4 Where such information cannot be published to this timescale, the awarding body must instead provide or make available to potential purchasers information that is sufficient to give a reasonable indication of its likely fees, together with a clear statement to make potential purchasers aware that this information is only indicative.

To support compliance with Condition F1, we have published [guidance](#) for awarding bodies on making fee information available to purchasers.

Condition F2 – Packaging qualifications with other products or services

Packages offered as an option

- F2.1 Where an awarding body makes available a qualification both in a package with other products or services and separately from those other products or services, it must inform purchasers prior to the time of purchase that the qualification may be purchased separately or in a package.

Packages offered without alternative options

- F2.2 An awarding body must not make available a qualification in a package together with other products or services unless it also makes available that qualification without other products or services, except where it:
- (a) from time to time seeks comments from purchasers on whether the packaging of the qualification with the particular products or services is appropriate; and
 - (b) reasonably concludes that continuing to make available the package is appropriate.

Condition F3 – Invoicing

Invoicing purchasers

- F3.1 An awarding body must:
- (a) ensure that its invoices in relation to the provision of qualifications are issued in a timely manner; and

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- (b) provide a breakdown of its fees, beyond that already required by HMRC, to a reasonable level of detail following a request from a purchaser.

The written invoicing policy

- F3.2 An awarding body must establish, maintain, publish and comply with a written policy on invoicing.
- F3.3 The policy must specify the processes to be followed by the awarding body in relation to the issue, payment and retention of invoices and the content of invoices.

Section G – Setting and delivering the assessment

Condition G1 – Setting the assessment

- G1.1 In setting an assessment for a qualification which it makes available, an awarding body must ensure that the content of the assessment is:
- (a) fit for purpose;
 - (b) appropriate for the method of assessment chosen; and
 - (c) consistent with the specification for that qualification.
- G1.2 An awarding body must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the [Level of Demand](#) of an assessment for a qualification which it makes available is consistent:
- (a) across all options as to tasks which may be completed by a [Learner](#) for the purposes of the assessment;
 - (b) with the [Level of Demand](#) of any other assessment which may be completed by a [Learner](#), as an alternative to the assessment, for the purpose of the qualification; and
 - (c) with the [Level of Demand](#) of previous assessments and of any specimen assessment materials which the awarding body has published in relation to the qualification.
- G1.3 An awarding body must produce a written document in relation to an assessment which sets out clear and unambiguous criteria against which [Learners'](#) levels of attainment will be differentiated.

Condition G2 – Language of the assessment

- G2.1 An awarding body must ensure that all [Learners](#) taking its qualifications are assessed in Welsh and/or English in Wales except to the extent that the use of another language is permitted by this Condition.

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- G2.2 A [Learner](#) taking a qualification in Wales may be assessed in British Sign Language where it is permitted by an awarding body for the purpose of [Reasonable Adjustment](#).
- G2.3 A [Learner](#) taking a qualification may be assessed in any other language where it is one of the primary objectives of the qualification:
- (a) for the [Learner](#) to gain knowledge of, skills in, and understanding of that language; or
 - (b) to support a role in the workplace, providing that proficiency in English or Welsh is not required for the role supported by the qualification.
- G2.4 Where an awarding body makes available a qualification in more than one language, the awarding body must take all reasonable steps to ensure that assessments in different languages ensure a consistent [Level of Demand](#) for [Learners](#).

Condition G3 – Use of language and stimulus materials

- G3.1 An awarding body must ensure that assessments for qualifications which it makes available use only appropriate language and stimulus materials.
- G3.2 Language and stimulus materials are only appropriate if they:
- (a) enable [Learners](#) to demonstrate their level of attainment;
 - (b) require knowledge, skills and understanding which are required for the qualification;
 - (c) are clear and unambiguous (unless ambiguity forms part of the assessment); and
 - (d) are not likely to cause unnecessary offence to [Learners](#).
- G3.3 In considering whether language and stimulus materials for an assessment are appropriate, an awarding body must take into account in particular:
- (a) the age of [Learners](#) who may reasonably be expected to take the qualification;
 - (b) the [Level](#) of the qualification;

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- (c) the objective of the qualification; and
- (d) the knowledge, skills and understanding assessed for the qualification.

G3.4 An awarding body must take all reasonable steps to ensure that no assessment for a qualification which it makes available contains language or stimulus materials which could lead a group of [Learners](#) who share a common attribute or circumstance to experience – because of that attribute or circumstance – an unreasonable disadvantage in the level of attainment that they are able to demonstrate in the assessment.

Condition G4 – Maintaining confidentiality of assessment materials

G4.1 Where confidentiality in:

- (a) the contents of assessment materials; or
- (b) information about the assessment

is required in order to ensure that a qualification which an awarding body makes available, or proposes to make available, reflects an accurate measure of attainment, the awarding body must take all reasonable steps to ensure that such confidentiality is maintained.

G4.2 In particular, an awarding body must take all reasonable steps –

- (a) to ensure that such confidentiality is maintained where it (or any person connected or previously connected to it) provides training or training materials in relation to such a qualification; and
- (b) where persons hold information in relation to the content of assessment materials or other information about the assessment of a qualification and disclosure of such information to [Teachers](#) would breach the confidentiality referred to in Condition G4.1, ensure that sufficient controls are in place to ensure that no such disclosure or breach occurs.

G4.3 An awarding body must, in respect of any training it provides to [Teachers](#) in relation to such a qualification (and, in relation to any such training provided by any person connected to it), must take all reasonable steps to:

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- (a) ensure that training is reasonably available to all [Teachers](#) preparing [Learners](#), or persons likely to become [Learners](#), for assessments for that qualification;
- (b) advertise to [Teachers](#) the availability of the training, including in particular by publishing details of the training; and
- (c) publish the content of any training materials which have been provided to [Teachers](#) in connection with the training, as soon as reasonably practicable after the training has been held.

G4.4 An awarding body must take all reasonable steps to ensure that:

- (a) no person connected to it, or previously connected to it; and
- (b) in particular, no [Teacher](#) or other third party who has had access to assessment materials,

offers to disclose information about any assessment or the content of any assessment materials where that information is (or is said or implied to be) confidential.

G4.5 Where any breach of such confidentiality (including through the loss or theft of confidential assessment materials) is either suspected by an awarding body or alleged by any other person and where there are reasonable grounds for that suspicion or allegation, the awarding body must:

- (a) investigate that breach;
- (b) ensure that such an investigation is carried out rigorously, effectively, and by persons of appropriate competence who have no personal interest in its outcome; and
- (c) so far as possible, establish whether or not a breach of such confidentiality has occurred.

Condition G5 – Registration of Learners

G5.1 An awarding body must take all reasonable steps to ensure that:

- (a) each [Learner](#) taking a qualification which the awarding body makes available is registered in a way that permits the [Learner](#) to be clearly and uniquely identified; and

- (b) where the identity of a [Learner](#) has not previously been confirmed to the awarding body, or the [Centre](#) at which the assessment will take place, arrangements are in place to confirm the [Learner](#)'s identity.

Condition G6 – Arrangements for Reasonable Adjustments

- G6.1 An awarding body must, in accordance with [Equalities Law](#), have in place clear arrangements for making [Reasonable Adjustments](#) in relation to qualifications which it makes available.
- G6.2 An awarding body must publish details of its arrangements for making [Reasonable Adjustments](#), which must include details as to:
- (a) how a [Learner](#) qualifies for a [Reasonable Adjustment](#); and
 - (b) what [Reasonable Adjustment](#) will be made.

Condition G7 – Arrangements for Special Consideration

- G7.1 An awarding body must have in place clear arrangements for [Special Consideration](#) to be given to [Learners](#) in relation to qualifications which it makes available.
- G7.2 An awarding body must publish details of its arrangements for giving [Special Consideration](#), which must include details as to:
- (a) how a [Learner](#) qualifies for [Special Consideration](#); and
 - (b) what [Special Consideration](#) will be given.

Condition G8 – Completion of the assessment

- G8.1 An awarding body must take all reasonable steps to ensure that, in relation to qualifications which it makes available:
- (a) evidence generated by a [Learner](#) in an assessment is generated by that [Learner](#) (or includes evidence generated by that [Learner](#) as a contribution to group work); and
 - (b) where an assessment is required to be completed under specified conditions, [Learners](#) complete the assessment under those conditions

(other than where any [Reasonable Adjustments](#) or [Special Consideration](#) require alternative conditions).

Condition G9 - Delivering the assessment

- G9.1 An awarding body must ensure that every assessment for a qualification that it makes available is delivered effectively and efficiently.
- G9.2 An awarding body must ensure that, on delivery of every assessment for a qualification that it makes available, the assessment:
- (a) is fit for purpose;
 - (b) permits [Reasonable Adjustments](#) to be made, while minimising the need for them;
 - (c) allows each [Learner](#) to generate evidence which can be authenticated;
 - (d) allows each specified level of attainment detailed in the specification to be reached by a [Learner](#) who has attained the required level of knowledge, skills and understanding; and
 - (e) allows [Assessors](#) to be able to differentiate accurately and consistently between a range of attainments by [Learners](#).
- G9.3 An awarding body must ensure that, on delivery of every assessment for a qualification that it makes available, the content of the assessment:
- (a) is fit for purpose;
 - (b) is appropriate for the method of assessment chosen; and
 - (c) is consistent with the specification for that qualification.

Section H – From marking to issuing results

Condition H1 – Marking the assessment

Marking

H1.1 For each qualification which it makes available, an awarding body must have in place effective arrangements to ensure that, as far as possible, the criteria against which [Learners'](#) performance will be differentiated are –

- (a) understood by [Assessors](#) and accurately applied; and
- (b) applied consistently by [Assessors](#), regardless of the identity of the [Assessor](#), [Learner](#) or [Centre](#).

Marking options

H1.2 Where:

- (a) an awarding body offers an option as to tasks which may be completed by a [Learner](#) in an assessment or as to assessments which may be completed by the [Learner](#) (including units);
- (b) the awarding body reasonably concludes that there is a material inconsistency between the [Level of Demand](#) of two optional tasks or assessments; and
- (c) it is likely that the inconsistency will prejudice a group of [Learners](#),

the awarding body must make a reasonable alteration to the criteria against which [Learners'](#) performance will be differentiated for the optional task or assessment so as to prevent that prejudice from occurring.

H1.3 Where such a reasonable alteration is made for an optional task or assessment, an awarding body must ensure that the alteration is applied uniformly in the marking of every task or assessment in relation to which a [Learner](#) has taken that option.

Condition H2 – Centre Assessment Standards Scrutiny where an assessment is marked by a Centre

- H2.1 Where evidence generated by a [Learner](#) in an assessment for a qualification made available by an awarding body is marked by a [Centre](#), the awarding body must have in place clear and effective arrangements to undertake [Centre Assessment Standards Scrutiny](#) of the assessment.
- H2.2 An awarding body must ensure that in respect of any [Centre Assessment Standards Scrutiny](#) which it undertakes it complies with –
- (a) any requirements, and has regard to any guidance, which may be published by Qualifications Wales and revised from time to time; and
 - (b) any requirements which Qualifications Wales has communicated to it in writing.
- H2.3 An awarding body must ensure that any [Centre Assessment Standards Scrutiny](#) which it undertakes, it takes all reasonable steps effectively to determine whether or not:
- (a) the assessment remains, or was, fit for purpose; and
 - (b) the criteria against which [Learners'](#) performance is differentiated are being, or were, applied accurately and consistently by [Assessors](#) in different [Centres](#), regardless of the identity of the [Assessor](#), [Learner](#), or [Centre](#).
- H2.4 An awarding body must:
- (a) ensure that any [Centre Assessment Standards Scrutiny](#) which it undertakes ensures that it is able to make any necessary changes to a [Centre's](#) marking of evidence generated by a [Learner](#) in an assessment; and
 - (b) make such a change wherever it considers it necessary in order to ensure that the assessment remains fit for purpose or that the criteria against which [Learners'](#) performance is differentiated are being applied accurately and consistently.

Centre Assessment Standards Scrutiny strategy

- H2.5 In respect of each qualification which it makes available, or proposes to make available, where evidence generated by a [Learner](#) is marked by a [Centre](#) an awarding body must –
- (a) establish and maintain a [Centre Assessment Standards Scrutiny](#) strategy for that qualification;
 - (b) ensure that its strategy complies with any requirements which may be published by Qualifications Wales and revised from time to time; and
 - (c) have regard to any guidance in relation to [Centre Assessment Standards Scrutiny](#) strategies which may be published by Qualifications Wales and revised from time to time.
- H2.6 In particular, an awarding body must ensure that the [Centre Assessment Standards Scrutiny](#) strategy for a qualification sets out how the awarding body intends to secure, on an ongoing basis, compliance with Conditions H2.1 to H2.4 in respect of the assessments for that qualification.
- H2.7 An awarding body must ensure that all [Centre Assessment Standards Scrutiny](#) which it undertakes complies with its strategy established under this Condition.
- H2.8 An awarding body must –
- (a) keep under review its [Centre Assessment Standards Scrutiny](#) strategy, and revise it where necessary, so as to satisfy itself that the strategy meets at all times the requirements of Conditions H2.5 and H2.6;
 - (b) when requested to do so by Qualifications Wales in writing, promptly submit to Qualifications Wales that strategy; and
 - (c) review that strategy promptly upon receiving a request from Qualifications Wales to do so, and subsequently ensure that its strategy complies with any requirements that Qualifications Wales has communicated to it in writing.

H2.9 An awarding body must –

- (a) upon receiving a request from Qualifications Wales to do so, demonstrate to Qualifications Wales's satisfaction that it has complied with its [Centre Assessment Standards Scrutiny](#) strategy in respect of any particular assessment, or provide an explanation to Qualifications Wales as to why it has not so complied; and
- (b) give effect to any recommendation that Qualifications Wales may make in respect of its compliance with its [Centre Assessment Standards Scrutiny strategy](#).

Condition H3 – Monitoring the specified levels of attainment for a qualification

H3.1 Before setting a specified level of attainment for a qualification which it makes available, an awarding body must review the specified levels of attainment set for:

- (a) the qualification previously;
- (b) similar qualifications it makes available;
- (c) similar qualifications made available by other awarding bodies;

and must use the results of this monitoring to ensure that the specified level of attainment it sets for the qualification will promote consistency in measuring the levels of attainment of [Learners](#) over time and between similar qualifications.

Condition H4 – Adjudication by Qualifications Wales of specified levels of attainment for a qualification

H4.1 Where:

- (a) an awarding body makes available a qualification;
- (b) at least one other body makes available a qualification which is viewed by the generality of [Users of qualifications](#) as being a direct equivalent to that qualification;
- (c) each body sets the specified level or levels of attainment for the equivalent qualification that they respectively make available;

- (d) Qualifications Wales considers that a specified level of attainment set by an awarding body prevents the equivalent qualifications from indicating an appropriate or consistent level of attainment (including, where Qualifications Wales considers appropriate, over time); and
- (e) Qualifications Wales specifies to an awarding body, in writing, requirements in relation to a specified level of attainment for the qualification which it makes available (either for a particular assessment cycle or during a particular time period),

any awarding body to which Qualifications Wales has specified such requirements must ensure that, before the qualification is awarded for that assessment cycle or during that time period, the specified level of attainment for the qualification complies with those requirements.

Condition H5 – Results for a qualification must be based on sufficient evidence

H5.1 An awarding body must ensure that the result of each assessment taken by a [Learner](#) in relation to a qualification which the awarding body makes available reflects the level of attainment demonstrated by that [Learner](#) in the assessment.

H5.2 An awarding body must ensure that:

- (a) the marking of an assessment in relation to; and
- (b) the awarding of,

a qualification which it makes available takes into account all admissible evidence generated by a [Learner](#) as part of that assessment.

H5.3 Where an awarding body sets a rule as to the quantity or type of evidence generated by [Learners](#) which will be admissible in an assessment, it must ensure that:

- (a) the assessment makes the rule clear; and
- (b) the rule is applied to all [Learners](#) taking the assessment (other than where any [Reasonable Adjustments](#) or [Special Consideration](#) require it to be altered).

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H5.4 Where an awarding body sets a rule as to how the final mark for a qualification will be calculated from marks for different assessments, it must ensure that:

- (a) the qualification makes the rule clear; and
- (b) the rule is applied to all [Learners](#) taking the qualification (other than where any [Reasonable Adjustments](#) or [Special Consideration](#) require it to be altered).

Condition H6 – Issuing results

H6.1 An awarding body must, in relation to any qualification which it makes available:

- (a) issue results for all units and qualifications;
- (b) publish expected dates or timescales for the issue of those results;
- (c) issue results which are clear and readily capable of being understood by [Users of qualifications](#);
- (d) issue results which accurately and completely reflect the marking of assessments (including the outcome of any [Centre Assessment Standards Scrutiny](#) and other quality assurance process);
- (e) ensure that the issue of results is timely; and
- (f) take all reasonable steps to meet any date or timescale it has published for the issue of results.

H6.2 An awarding body must comply with any notice in writing issued by Qualifications Wales under this Condition requiring it to refrain from issuing results for a qualification or qualifications –

- (a) until such date as Qualifications Wales might specify; and
- (b) until it has complied with such requirements as Qualifications Wales might specify.

Correcting results

H6.3 Where an awarding body discovers that any result which it has issued is incorrect, it must –

- (a) correct that result where the error is discovered through the application of an appeals process,
- (b) in all other cases –
 - i. consider whether it is appropriate to correct that result, having regard to any guidance on making changes to incorrect results published by Qualifications Wales; and
 - ii. correct that result where it considers it appropriate to do so.

Section I – Appeals and certificates

Condition I1 – Appeals process

- I1.1 An awarding body must establish, maintain and comply with an appeals process in relation to all qualifications which it makes available, which must provide for the appeal of:
- (a) the results of assessments;
 - (b) decisions regarding [Reasonable Adjustments](#) and [Special Consideration](#); and
 - (c) decisions relating to any action to be taken against a [Learner](#) or a [Centre](#) following an investigation into malpractice or maladministration.
- I1.2 For the purposes of Condition I1, the appeals process must provide for:
- (a) the effective appeal of results on the basis that the awarding body did not apply procedures consistently or that procedures were not followed properly and fairly;
 - (b) all appeal decisions to be taken by individuals who have no personal interest in the decision being appealed;
 - (c) appeal decisions to be only taken by persons who have appropriate competence;
 - (d) the final decision in respect of the outcome of an appeal to involve at least one decision maker who is not an employee of the awarding body, an [Assessor](#) working for it, or otherwise connected to it; and
 - (e) timelines for the outcome of appeals.
- I1.3 An awarding body must publish information on its appeals process to enable the results of assessments to be appealed.
- I1.4 Where the application of an appeals process in the case of a [Learner](#) leads an awarding body to discover a failure in its assessment process, it must take all reasonable steps to:

- (a) identify any other [Learner](#) who has been affected by the failure;
- (b) correct or, where it cannot be corrected, mitigate as far as possible the effect of the failure; and
- (c) ensure that the failure does not recur in the future.

Condition I2 – Compliance with Qualifications Wales’ appeals and complaints process

- 12.1 An awarding body must comply with the requirements of any appeals and complaints process established by Qualifications Wales in the form in which it may be published by Qualifications Wales and revised from time to time.
- 12.2 An awarding body must give due regard to the outcome of any such appeals or complaints process in relation to a qualification which it makes available.
- 12.3 Where the application of any such appeals or complaints process in the case of a [Learner](#) leads an awarding body to discover a failure in its assessment process, it must take all reasonable steps to:
 - (a) identify any other [Learner](#) who has been affected by that failure;
 - (b) correct or, where it cannot be corrected, mitigate as far as possible the effect of the failure; and
 - (c) ensure that the failure does not recur in the future.
- 12.4 Where Qualifications Wales notifies an awarding body of failures that have been discovered in the assessment process of another awarding body, the awarding body must review whether or not a similar failure could affect its own assessment process.
- 12.5 Where, following a review, the awarding body identifies such a potential failure, it must take the same action as if a failure has been discovered in relation to it by virtue of the application of Qualifications Wales’ appeals and complaints process.

Condition I3 – The design and content of certificates

The design of certificates

- I3.1 An awarding body must ensure that the design of each certificate in relation to a qualification which it makes available complies with [Certificate Requirements](#) which may be published by Qualifications Wales and revised from time to time.

The content of certificates

- I3.2 An awarding body must ensure that:
- (a) all certificates which it issues clearly and uniquely identify both the [Learner](#) and the certificate itself;
 - (b) all certificates which it issues clearly display the title of the qualification as it appears on [QiW](#) (and any endorsement known after the qualification is submitted to [QiW](#)) and do not include any other title for the qualification.
- I3.3 Where an awarding body issues any replacement certificate, it must ensure that the certificate is clearly identifiable as being a replacement.
- I3.4 Where an awarding body issues a certificate in relation to a qualification and:
- (a) the assessment of the qualification was in a language other than Welsh and/or English; or
 - (b) the objective of the qualification was not for the [Learner](#) to gain skills in, or knowledge or understanding of that language,
- the awarding body must ensure that the language of the assessment is clearly identifiable on the certificate.

Condition I4 – Issuing certificates and replacement certificates

- I4.1 An awarding body must, in relation to qualifications which it makes available:
- (a) publish the expected dates or timescales for the issue of certificates;

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- (b) ensure that the issue of certificates is timely;
- (c) issue only certificates which are clear and can be readily understood by [Users of qualifications](#);
- (d) issue only certificates which are accurate and complete, and which reflect accurate and complete results;
- (e) maintain a record of all certificates and replacement certificates which it issues; and
- (f) not include a qualification which is not a [Regulated Qualification](#) on a certificate which contains [Regulated Qualifications](#).

14.2 An awarding body must take all reasonable steps, including having procedures in place, to ensure that it:

- (a) issues a certificate and any replacement certificate to any [Learner](#) who has a valid entitlement to that certificate or replacement certificate;
- (b) does not issue any certificate to a [Learner](#) who does not have a valid entitlement to that certificate;
- (c) revokes any certificate if the result on the certificate is false because of malpractice, maladministration, or because the result has been corrected under Condition H6.3; and
- (d) meets any date or timescales published by it in respect of the issue of certificates and replacement certificates.

Section J – Interpretation and definitions

Condition J1 – Interpretation and definitions

Interpretation

- J1.1 In these Conditions, the following rules of interpretation shall apply.
- J1.2 Unless the context suggests otherwise, in these Conditions:
- (a) words in the masculine gender are to be read as including the feminine gender (and vice versa);
 - (b) words in the singular are to be read as including the plural (and vice versa);
 - (c) references to 'it' are to be read as including references to 'he' and 'she' (and vice versa);
 - (d) the words 'including' and 'in particular' indicate a list of examples and should not be read as limiting the scope of the words that occur before them;
 - (e) references to 'person' include any body of persons, whether corporate or un-incorporate;
 - (f) 'awarding body' refers to an awarding body which is recognised in accordance with Part 3 of the Qualifications Wales Act 2015;
 - (g) 'relevant qualification' refers to any qualification for which the relevant awarding body is recognised or which falls within a description of qualifications for which it is recognised;
 - (h) references to providing something 'in writing' are to include providing it by hand, post, fax, electronic mail or through a submission to Qualifications in Wales ([QiW](#));
 - (i) a 'qualification' means a [Regulated Qualification](#) (and includes any units of that qualification);

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- (j) references to 'this Condition' are to be read as references to the Condition as a whole (such as Condition B3);
 - (k) references to an Act of Parliament or Act or Measure of the Senedd Cymru/Welsh Parliament include any subordinate legislation made under that Act or Measure.
- J1.3 If there is an inconsistency between a provision in these Conditions, and a provision contained in any document which is referenced in these conditions, these conditions shall prevail and the other document shall have no force and effect to the extent of that inconsistency.
- J1.4 Titles and headings in these Conditions are for information only and are not to be used for the purposes of interpretation.
- J1.5 A person is connected to an awarding body if that person undertakes or is involved in any activity undertaken by the awarding body.
- J1.6 Completion of a qualification by a [Learner](#) shall include the completion of any appeals process.
- J1.7 Where an awarding body is required to publish a document or information, that document or information must be published in a way which is:
- (a) clear to its intended audience;
 - (b) accurate; and
 - (c) reasonably accessible (including by way of publication on the awarding body's website).

Definitions

- J1.8 In these Conditions, the following words shall have the meaning given to them below (and cognate expressions should be construed accordingly):

The Act The Qualifications Wales Act 2015.

Adverse Effect An act, omission, event, incident, or circumstance has an Adverse Effect if it:

- (a) gives rise to prejudice to Learners or persons likely to become Learners;

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or

(b) adversely affects:

(i) the ability of the awarding body to undertake the development, delivery or award of qualifications in a way that complies with its Conditions of Recognition;

(ii) the standards of qualifications which the awarding body makes available or proposes to make available; or

(iii) public confidence in qualifications and/or the Welsh qualification system.

Approval

Approval as defined under Part 4 of the Qualifications Wales Act 2015.

Approval Criteria

Approval criteria as defined under section 20 of the Qualifications Wales Act 2015.

Approved Qualifications

Regulated qualifications eligible for use on publicly funded programmes of learning that are Approved under Part 4 of the Qualifications Wales Act 2015, awarded in Wales and that have met Approval Criteria. Approved qualifications will have been allocated an identified approval number.

Assessor

A person who undertakes marking or the review of marking. This involves using a particular set of criteria to make judgements as to the level of attainment a Learner has demonstrated in an assessment.

Associated Learner Fees

Any fee which is –

(a) subject to negotiation, payable to an awarding body by a purchaser in Wales for an optional service that is directly related to the delivery and award of a regulated qualification to an individual Learner; and

(b) not included in the Standard Qualification Fee.

Authentication

A process under which evidence generated by a Learner in an assessment is confirmed as having been generated by that Learner (or identified and confirmed as being that Learner's contribution to group work) and as being generated under the required Conditions.

Centre

A body undertaking the delivery of an assessment (and potentially other activities) to Learners on behalf of an awarding body. Centres are typically educational institutions, training providers, or employers.

**Centre
Assessment
Standards
Scrutiny**

The process through which an awarding body –

- (a) periodically scrutinises the marking of assessments by a Centre to ensure that it has not deviated from required standards;
- (b) considers whether it is appropriate to correct any mark and, if appropriate, corrects that mark (including where changes are required under Condition H2.4(b));
- (c) in line with condition H6.3(b), considers whether it is appropriate to correct any incorrect result and, if appropriate, corrects that result; an
- (d) takes action to prevent such deviation from recurring.

**Certificate
Requirements**

One or more documents of that title or with a title containing those words.

**Change of
Control**

A Change of Control takes place in relation to an awarding body where –

- (a) a person obtains control of the awarding body who did not, immediately prior to doing so, have control of it; or

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- (b) the awarding body merges with any person.

Where the awarding body is a company, sub-sections (2), (3) and (4) of section 450 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 shall apply for the purpose of determining whether a person has or had control of the awarding body.

Where the awarding body is a partnership or sole trader, a person(s) shall be treated as having control of the awarding body if they exercise, are able to exercise or are entitled to acquire direct or indirect control of the affairs of the awarding body.

Characteristic

Age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation, as protected under Equalities Law.

Comparability

Generating assessment outcomes that are comparable in standards between assessments within a qualification, between similar qualifications, with other awarding bodies, and over time. Where an assessment has equivalent forms then it is important to ensure comparability of outcomes. There are two reasons for this:

- (a) to reach fair comparisons about the attainment of Learners: it is impossible to produce different forms with exactly the same content and statistical specifications (such as the Level of Demand on the Learner). Therefore, a requirement to ensure comparability of outcomes makes sure the Level of Demand of the test forms is taken into account when setting standards so that Learners taking the different forms can be compared fairly.
- (b) to ensure that the outcomes can be used as a measure of standards: outcomes from different forms of the same test must be comparable if they are to be used to measure standards over time. Both expert judgements and statistical procedures such as test equating can be used

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to ensure comparability of outcomes from different forms of the same test. It is, however, important to ensure that assessments are not so similar that they become predictable, as this would be a threat to validity.

Competition Law	The Competition Act 1998, or any legislation in a jurisdiction other than Wales which has an equivalent purpose and effect.
Component	A discrete part of a qualification which: <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) focuses on specific areas of the knowledge, skills and understanding assessed for the qualification; and(b) has a specific set of criteria against which Learners' performance will be differentiated.
Conditions of Approval	All Conditions of Approval to which an Approved qualification is subject to, as imposed under section 22 of the Qualifications Wales Act 2015.
Conditions of Recognition	All Conditions to which an awarding body's recognition is subject (including Standard Conditions imposed under Schedule 3 of the Qualifications Wales Act 2015).
Conflict of Interest	A Conflict of Interest exists in relation to an awarding body where — <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) an awarding body's interests in any activity undertaken by it, on its behalf, or by a member of its Group have the potential to lead it to act in any way contrary to its interests in complying with its Conditions of Recognition;(b) a person who is connected to the provision of the awarding body's qualifications has interests in any other activity which have the potential to lead that person to act in any way contrary to his or her interests in that provision by the awarding body in

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compliance with its Conditions of Recognition; or

- (c) an informed and reasonable observer would conclude that either of these situations was the case.

Data Protection Law

The following as they apply in Wales, and any legislation in a jurisdiction other than Wales which has an equivalent purpose and effect –

- (a) Regulation (EU) 2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data.
- (b) Any legislation in force from time to time in the United Kingdom relating to privacy and/or the processing of personal data, including but not limited to the Data Protection Act 2018 and the Privacy and Electronic Communications (EC Directive) Regulations 2003.
- (c) Any statutory codes of practice issued by the Information Commissioner in relation to such legislation.

Designation

Designation as defined under Part 5 of the Qualifications Wales Act 2015.

Designated Qualifications

Regulated qualifications that are Designated as eligible for use on publicly funded programmes of learning for Learners under the age of 19, as defined under section 29 of the Qualifications Wales Act 2015.

Engagement

Engagement is about ensuring Learners' interests are given equitable consideration when qualifications are designed and developed. Therefore, it is primarily concerned with the impact of qualifications on Learners. It can incorporate a variety of considerations including the impact of

qualifications on Learners' mental health and the importance of Minimising Bias in the assessment.

Judgements about Engagement must be balanced with considerations around the requirements (Validity, Reliability, Comparability and Minimising Bias) outlined in Condition D1 - Fitness for Purpose of Qualifications.

Endorsement

A reference in the title of a qualification acknowledging that the Learner is focusing or has focused on one or more particular areas of knowledge, skills and understanding which form part of the qualification (as encompassed in the qualification title). (For instance, in GCSE Art and Design – Textile Design, Textile Design is an Endorsement of GCSE Art and Design.)

Equalities Law

The Equality Act 2010, any Act that was a statutory predecessor to that Act, or any legislation in a jurisdiction other than Wales which has an equivalent purpose and effect.

Governing Body

Where the awarding body is a limited company, the board of directors of the awarding body. Where the awarding body is not a limited company, a person or group of people having the equivalent status within the organisational structure of the awarding body.

Group

Where an awarding body is a limited company, a group made up of any company which is a holding company of the awarding body, a subsidiary of the awarding body or a subsidiary of a holding company of the awarding body. Where an awarding body is not a limited company, a person or group of people having the equivalent status.

Guided Learning

The activity of a Learner in being taught or instructed by- or otherwise participating in education or training under the Immediate Guidance or Supervision of - a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training.

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For these purposes the activity of 'participating in education or training' shall be treated as including the activity of being assessed if the assessment takes place under the Immediate Guidance or Supervision of a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training.

Immediate Guidance or Supervision

The guidance or supervision provided to a Learner by a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training:

- (a) with the simultaneous physical presence of the Learner and that person; or
- (b) remotely by means of simultaneous electronic communication.

Invigilation

The supervision by an appropriate person of Learners who participating in the activity of being assessed for a qualification, where such supervision involves neither any reaching nor the giving of any guidance or direction beyond that which is necessary to convey instructions for the carrying out of the assessment or otherwise for the effective management of the assessment activity.

Insolvency Event

Means where:

- (a) the awarding body suspends, or threatens to suspend, payment of its debts or is unable to pay its debts as they fall due or admits inability to pay its debts or (being a company or limited liability partnership) is deemed unable to pay its debts within the meaning of section 123 of the Insolvency Act 1986, within the meaning of section 268 of the Insolvency Act 1986;
- (b) the awarding body commences negotiations with all or any class of its creditors with a view to rescheduling any of its debts, or makes a proposal for or enters into any compromise or arrangement with its creditors other than (being a company) for the sole purpose of a scheme for a solvent amalgamation of the awarding body with one or

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more other companies or the solvent reconstruction of that other party;

(c) a petition is filed, a resolution is passed, or an order is made, for, or in connection with, the winding up of the awarding body (being a company) other than for the sole purpose of a scheme for a solvent amalgamation of that other party with one or more other companies or the solvent reconstruction of that other party;

(d) an application is made to court, or an order is made, for the appointment of an administrator, or if a notice of intention to appoint an administrator is given or if an administrator is appointed, over the awarding body;

(e) the holder of a qualifying floating charge over the assets of the awarding body (being a company) has appointed an administrative receiver;

(f) a receiver is appointed over the assets of the awarding body;

(g) a creditor or encumbrancer of the awarding body attaches or takes possession of, or a distress, execution, sequestration or other such process is levied or enforced on or sued against, the whole or any part of the other party's assets and such attachment or process is not discharged within fourteen (14) days;

(h) any event occurs, or proceeding is taken, with respect to the other party in any jurisdiction to which it is subject that has an effect equivalent or similar to any of the events mentioned in (a) to (g) (inclusive); or

(i) the awarding body suspends or ceases, or threatens to suspend or cease, carrying on all or a substantial part of its business.

Learner

A person who is seeking to obtain qualifications.

Level	An indicator of the relative demand, complexity and depth of learning. The Credit and Qualifications Framework for Wales incorporates nine levels: Entry level, which is banded into three sub-levels; and Levels 1-8.
Level of Demand	The degree of challenge that an assessment presents for the Learner.
Logo Requirements	One or more documents that specify to an awarding body the use of Qualifications Wales' logo(s).
Manageability	Manageability relates to the feasibility of carrying out particular assessment processes. A manageable assessment process is one which places reasonable demands on Centres and Learners. The evaluation of the reasonableness of the demands will be based on the scale of the assessment process on the participants, balanced by the usefulness of the outcomes. As with the other requirements (Validity, Reliability, Comparability and Minimising Bias), judgements about Manageability must be balanced with considerations around the other requirements.
Mandatory Centre Fees	Any mandatory fee which – (a) subject to negotiation, an awarding body requires a Centre to pay to it in order to undertake the delivery of an assessment to Learners (or any other activities) on behalf of the awarding body, irrespective of the number of Learners taking the qualification; and (b) is not included in the Standard Qualification Fee.
Minimising Bias	Minimising Bias is about ensuring that an assessment does not produce unreasonably adverse outcomes for Learners who share a common attribute or circumstance. The minimisation of bias is

related to fairness to all Learners and is also closely related to statutory equality duties.

Moderation

The process through which the marking of assessments by Centres is monitored to make sure it meets required standards and through which adjustments to results are made, where required, to ensure that results are based on the required standard.

Moderation takes place before final results are issued under Condition H6.1.

Other Regulated

Other regulated qualifications are those qualifications awarded in Wales by a recognised awarding body, which are not currently Designated or Approved by Qualifications Wales, and which the awarding body has not surrendered from the scope of its recognition.

Package Fees

Where an awarding body makes a qualification available as part of a package together with other products and services, any notional fee which is –

- (a) subject to negotiation, payable to an awarding body by a purchaser of the package in respect of each of those other products and services; and
- (b) not included in the Standard Qualification Fee.

Procure

To cause or bring about an outcome by care and effort.

Qualification Number

The number assigned by Qualifications Wales to the qualification.

Qualifications in Wales (QiW)

The information technology system Qualifications in Wales (QiW), provided for awarding bodies by Qualifications Wales, as it may be varied and replaced from time to time.

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Qualifications Wales logo	Any logo, design or style in which Qualifications Wales holds intellectual property rights.
Reasonable Adjustment	An adjustment made to an assessment for a qualification so as to enable a disabled Learner to demonstrate his or her knowledge, skills and understanding to the levels of attainment required by the specification for that qualification.
Recognition of Prior Learning	<p>The:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) identification by an awarding body of any learning undertaken, and/or attainment, by a Learner:<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) prior to that Learner taking one of its qualifications, or proposed qualifications; and(ii) which is relevant to the knowledge, skills and understanding which will be assessed as part of that qualification; and(b) recognition by an awarding body of that learning and/or attainment through amendment to the requirements which a Learner must have satisfied before the Learner will be assessed or that qualification will be awarded.
Regulatory Document	A Regulatory Document, or part of a Regulatory Document, which features in a document entitled the 'Regulatory Document List', which may be published by Qualifications Wales.
Regulated Qualifications	All non-degree qualifications (whether an Approved, Designated or Other Regulated) that are offered for award by an awarding body recognised by Qualifications Wales (unless either an awarding body has surrendered its recognition in respect of that qualification, or if an awarding body excluded that qualification from the scope of its recognition by

notifying Welsh Government prior to 21 September 2015).

Reliability

Reliability is about consistency and so concerns the extent to which the various stages in the assessment process generate outcomes which would be replicated were the assessment repeated. Reliability is a necessary condition of Validity, as it is not possible to demonstrate the Validity of an assessment process which is not reliable. The Reliability of an assessment is affected by a range of factors such as the sampling of assessment tasks and inconsistency in marking by human assessors.

Responsible Officer

An individual appointed to act as an awarding body's authoritative point of contact for Qualifications Wales.

Senior Officer

A director or senior executive officer of the awarding body or, where the awarding body is not a limited company, a person holding a position of equivalent status within the organisational structure of the awarding body.

Special Consideration

Consideration to be given to a Learner who has temporarily experienced an illness or injury, or some other event outside of his or her control, which has, or is reasonably likely to have, materially affected the Learner's ability to –

- (a) take an assessment, or
- (b) demonstrate his or her level of attainment in an assessment.

Standard Qualification Fee

A fee which, subject to negotiation, is payable to an awarding body by a purchaser in Wales that represents the sum of all mandatory fees that must be paid in respect of an individual Learner for that Learner to have the opportunity to obtain one of the awarding body's qualifications, including a certificate in relation to it.

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This would exclude any Learner pre-requisites clearly set out in the qualification specification, for example prior learning or membership of a professional body.

Where an awarding body only makes a qualification available as part of a package, together with other products and services, the Standard Qualification Fee will be the notional fee payable in respect of the qualification only.

Stimulus materials

Materials provided to the Learner before or at the time of the assessment which facilitate the Learner's demonstration of his or her knowledge, skills and understanding. Tasks in an assessment may relate directly to the materials and a Learner may make direct reference to the materials in completing the assessment. Such materials may include, for example, charts, diagrams, pictures, quotations, or machinery.

Supporting Materials

Supporting materials include all assessment materials in all formats, the qualification specification, specimen assessment materials, and any other materials that are made mandatory by the awarding body for the Learner to have the opportunity to obtain the qualification.

Teacher

A person who prepares any Learner or any person likely to become a Learner, for assessment for a qualification and who does so:

- (a) as a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training; or
- (b) in circumstances in which that preparation takes place primarily at home.

**Total
Qualification
Time (TQT)**

The number of notional hours which represents an estimate of the total amount of time that could reasonably be expected to be required in order for a Learner to achieve and demonstrate the achievement of the level of attainment necessary for the award of a qualification. Total Qualification Time is comprised of the following two elements:

- (a) the number of hours which an awarding body has assigned to a qualification for Guided Learning; and
- (b) an estimate of the number of hours a Learner will reasonably be likely to spend in preparation, study or any other form of participation in education or training, including assessment, which takes place as directed by- but not under the Immediate Guidance or Supervision of- a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training.

**Total
Qualification
Time Criteria
(TQT Criteria)**

The TQT criteria are any criteria that are set and published by Qualifications Wales for the purpose of determining the number of hours of Total Qualification Time that should be assigned to a qualification by an awarding body. The TQT Criteria may be set out in more than one document.

**Users of
qualifications**

Persons who have a legitimate interest in the qualification or type of qualification made available by the awarding body, which may include:

- (a) Learners and Learners' representatives;
- (b) Centres;
- (c) Teachers;
- (d) employers and employers' representatives;
- (e) further and higher education establishments;

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- (f) schools;
- (g) government departments and agencies;
- (h) professional bodies.

Validity

The extent to which the assessment tests the things it is supposed to assess. The use(s) of the outcome(s) of an assessment is/are valid if supported by evidence and theory. The evaluation of Validity involves the development of a clear argument to support the proposed interpretation of the outcomes and the intended uses of the assessment. The Validity argument should be built on statements of the proposed interpretation and supporting evidence collected from all stages of the assessment process.

Workforce

Persons available for work (including employees, workers and contractors).