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Enclosure 1 – Email from Deputy First Minister’s office to SQA CEO

From: [Redact s38(1)(b)]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills
Sent: 11 August 2020 21:56
To: Fiona Robertson <fiona.robertson@sqa.org.uk>
Cc: Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills <DFMCSE@gov.scot>
Subject: Letter of Direction from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills

Dear Fiona

Please find attached a letter of direction from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills.

Kind regards

[Redact s38(1)(b)]

[Redact s38(1)(b)] | Deputy First Minister of Scotland and Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills | Scottish Government | St Andrew's House | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG |Tel: 0131 244 [Redact s38(1)(b)]/07 [Redact s38(1)(b)] | E: DFMCSE@gov.scot

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Enclosure 1.1 – Ministerial direction from Deputy First Minister to SQA

Direction given to the Scottish Qualifications Authority under section 9 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1996

1. The Scottish Ministers in exercise of their powers conferred by section 9(1) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1996 (c.43) (“the 1996 Act”), and in recognition of their duty under section 3A of the Standards in Scotland’s Schools etc. Act 2000 (asp 6), give the following Direction to the Scottish Qualifications Authority (“the SQA”), the body corporate established by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (Establishment) (Scotland) Order 1996 (S.I. 1996/2248) which is made under section 1 of the 1996 Act.
2. In accordance with section 9(1) of the 1996 Act, the Scottish Ministers have consulted with the SQA before giving this Direction.

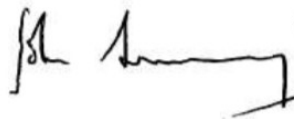
The Scottish Ministers direct as follows:

3. Paragraph 4 of this Direction applies only in respect of learners–
 - a. who, but for the cancellation of the 2020 diet of examinations for National 5, Higher and Advanced Highers, would have been presented for an examination for an SQA qualification, and
 - b. who were, as a result of the moderation process applied by the SQA, awarded a lower refined band than that estimated by the centre that presented them.
4. The SQA is required, in respect of those learners and those awards referred to in paragraph 3, to revise each such award so as to conform to the centre estimate and, as soon as reasonably practicable, confirm and certificate each such revised award.
5. The SQA is required to make no change to awards where the refined band awarded to a learner is the same as or higher than the refined band estimated by the centre that presented them.
6. The SQA is required to submit to the Scottish Ministers by 5pm on 13 August 2020 its proposals for adaptation of its appeal processes in consequence of paragraphs 4 and 5.

Commencement and duration

7. This Direction has effect from 22:00 on 11 August 2020.
8. This Direction has effect until it is revoked by a further Direction given by the Scottish Ministers.

Signed by



John Swinney MSP
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet
Secretary for Education and Skill
11 August 2020