



## ***Confidential***

**Meeting:** Qualifications Board  
**Location:** Virtual - Zoom  
**Date:** 14 January 2022, 10:30 – 15:00

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### **PRESENT:**

The Chair (Nora Nanayakkara), Elaine Darby, Cristina Gutu, Paul Layzell, Paul Lewis and Gillian McCreadie.

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Executive Director – Content, Quality and Innovation (Alan Hatfield), Director – Practice Regulation (Sundeep Takwani), Director – Exam Delivery and Innovation (Judith Bennett, for items 1-6 only), Director - Professional Qualifications (Ann Lamb), Director – Professional Conduct (Joe Johnson, for items 1-6 only), Head of Education Recognition (Katrina Smyth), Head of ACCA Qualifications (Jacky Bateman), Qualifications Data Science Lead (Tom Laycock, for items 1-5 only) and Regulation Officer (Jo Burns).

### **OBSERVERS:**

Kate Ringham (Oxford Brookes University) – items 1-5 only.

### **APOLOGIES:**

No apologies were received.

### **1. MINUTES and ACTION LOG**

The Board approved the minutes of the last meeting of the Qualifications Board held on 15 October 2021 and also approved the Action Log.

### **2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

No conflicts of interest were declared.

### **3. EXAMINATION RESULTS GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

The Board received a presentation from the Director – Professional Qualifications regarding the delivery of the exams and the results of the December 2021 exam session.

The Board also received a report from the Chief External Examiner on her review of the exam papers. The Chief External Examiner confirmed the following:

- the Applied Skills exams were set at Level 6 and all exams were comparable in standard and that there were no overlaps.
- the Strategic Professional exams were set at Level 7 and all exams were comparable in standard and that there were no overlaps.
- all papers covered realistic scenarios and problem solving.
- the rigorous analysis of examination results provides integrity to the process
- that there were no aspects of the examinations that gave her cause for concern.

Following all evidence presented and subsequent discussion, the Board agreed to ratify the December 2021 examination results.

#### **4. EXAMS UPDATE – ISSUES ARISING**

The Board noted an update from the Director – Professional Qualifications and Head of ACCA Qualifications.

#### **5. ACCA WIDE DEVELOPMENTS**

The Board noted a presentation from the Director - Exam Delivery and Innovation on ACCA's remote invigilation delivery.

#### **6. ACADEMIC PATHWAY**

The Board noted a presentation from ACCA's Qualifications Content Manager on ACCA's pilot programme for an academic pathway.

#### **7. QUALIFICATIONS BOARD WORK PLAN**

The Board discussed its work plan for the Council year 2021-2022 and offered suggestions to add to it.

#### **8. LEAD REGULATOR UPDATE**

The Board noted the update on ACCA's interactions with its lead regulators from the Head of Education Recognition and that ACCA remains in good standing with its lead regulators.

#### **9. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

The Board noted the dates of future meetings:

- Thursday 14 April 2022
- Friday 15 July 2022
- Friday 14 October 2022