

Mr Andrew Snowden
Member of Parliament for
Fylde
House of Commons
Westminster
London
SW1A 0AA

By email only to:
andrew.snowden.mp@parliament.uk

20 January 2026

Ref: PQ100140

Dear Mr Snowden,

Re: PQ100140 To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what discussions her Department has had with Ofqual regarding the risk management processes used by awarding organisations when introducing new qualifications.

Minister of State (Education), Georgia Gould, has asked Ofqual to respond directly to your recent Parliamentary Question. A copy of this response will be placed in the Libraries of both Houses.

Ofqual has had discussions with DfE officials regarding the regulatory tools that Ofqual uses when new qualifications are introduced to the market. These include, in the main, full public consultation exercises with regulatory and equality impact analyses, and the consequential introduction of qualification and subject specific requirements that sit within and are supported by the existing regulatory framework.

The existing regulatory framework includes requirements on all awarding organisations, for all qualifications, to identify the risk of any occurrence that could have an adverse effect, and then either prevent that risk from occurring or mitigate the situation as far as is possible.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ian Bauckham." The signature is written in a cursive style with a trailing dot at the end.

Sir Ian Bauckham CBE

Chief Regulator, Ofqual