ACCA Think Ahead

Minutes

Confidential

Meeting:	Qualifications Board
Location:	Virtual, Zoom
Date:	12 April 2024, 11.00 – 15:20

PRESENT:

The Chair (Paul Layzell), Katie Bailey, Elaine Darby, Paul Lewis, Nauman Mian and Matthew Wong.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Executive Director – Content, Quality, and Innovation (Alan Hatfield), Director - Professional Qualifications (Ann Lamb), Head of Education Recognition (Katrina Smyth), Head of ACCA Qualifications (Jacky Bateman), Qualifications Data Science Lead (Tom Laycock, for items 1-4 only), Director – Strategy (Jasmine Lassen, for item 5 only), Programme Lead – Innovation in Learning and Assessment (ILA) (Tony Peguinho, for item 6 only) and Secretariat Officer (Jo Burns).

OBSERVERS:

Kate Ringham (Oxford Brookes University) – items 1-4 only.
Andrew Steele (ACCA – Secretary)

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 12 January 2024. The Board noted that there were no actions to follow up from the last meeting.

2. **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

   No conflicts of interest were declared.

3. **EXAMINATION RESULTS GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

   The Board noted the Exams Governance Report which had been circulated to the Board. The Board received a presentation from the Director – Professional Qualifications and the Qualifications Data Science Lead on the delivery of exams and the results of the March 2024 exam session.

The Board also received an oral report from the Chief External Examiner on her review of the exam papers, confirming the following:

- It was confirmed that all exams were comparable in standard and there were no overlaps.
- All papers covered various interesting and relevant scenarios with an appropriate mix of style and diversity with the criteria met.
- The rigorous analysis of exam results provides integrity to the process.
- That there were no aspects of the exams that gave her cause for concern and that she was satisfied with all aspects.

Based on the evidence presented and subsequent discussion, the Board agreed to ratify the March 2024 examination results.

4. **LEAD REGULATOR UPDATE**

The Board noted the update on ACCA's interactions with its lead regulators from the Head of Education Recognition.

5. **ACCA WIDE DEVELOPMENTS – STRATEGY**

The Board received an update on ACCA's strategy including the strategic priority for the year from the Director - Strategy.

6. **INNOVATION AND LEARNING ASSESSMENT (ILA)**

The Board received an update on ACCA's Innovation and Learning programme from the Programme Lead – ILA.

7. **KEEPING THE QUALIFICATION RELEVANT**

The Board noted the information which had been provided in relation to how the ACCA Qualification was kept relevant and the main changes for the 24/25 syllabus year as part of the Board's continuous training on the ACCA Qualification.

8. **TERMS OF REFERENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS BOARD WORK PLAN 2023-24 COUNCIL YEAR**

The Board considered its work plan for the Council year 2023-2024 and requested the additions of sustainability, the student voice, student progression and an update on the findings of the exam integrity risk-based review.

9. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The Board noted the future meeting dates of the Qualifications Board:

- Friday 12 July 2024 (virtual)
- Friday 11 October 2024 (in-person at The Adelphi, ACCA, London)