

MALTA Cap
Area: 316 km
Maltese,
ro
of is
abi

SCOTTISH CREDIT AND QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

This Framework Award has been produced to show the mainstream Scottish qualifications already accredited by SQA and HEIs. However, there are a diverse number of learning opportunities and programmes which fall to the responsibility of HEIs, current or prospective students, please visit the SCQF website at www.scqf.org.uk to view the interactive version of the Framework or search the Database.

SCQF Levels	Qualifications	Qualifications of Higher Education Institutions	Apprenticeships & SVQs
12		Doctoral Degree	Professional Apprenticeship
11		Masters Degree, Post Graduate Diploma, Post Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship SVQ
10		Honours Degree, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship
9		Bachelors / Ordinary Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ
8	Higher National Diploma	Diploma Of Higher Education	Higher Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ
7	Advanced Higher Scottish Baccalaureate	Certificate Of Higher Education	Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
6	Higher, Awards for Achievement Skills for Work		Modern Apprenticeship Foundation Apprenticeship SVQ
5	National 5, Awards for Achievement Skills for Work National 5		Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
4	National 4, Awards for Achievement Skills for Work National 4		
	National 3, Awards for Achievement Skills for Work National 3		
	National 2, Awards for Achievement		

THE SCQF: MAKING SCOTLAND'S SKILLS VISIBLE

20/21

Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework Partnership Annual Impact Report



scottish credit and qualifications framework



Contents

- | | | | |
|-----------|---|-----------|--|
| 03 | Introduction from Jamie Hepburn MSP, Minister for Higher Education and Further Education, Youth Employment & Training | 14 | SCQF website and social media |
| 04 | Welcome from our Chair and Chief Executive | 15 | 2020/21 Highlights |
| 05 | Our Vision, Mission and Functions | 17 | 2020/21 Financial Statement |
| 06 | Our Letters Do the Talking | 18 | SCQFP Executive Team and Board of Management |
| 07 | Our 6 Strategic Priorities | 19 | The partner organisations we work with |

Introduction

Jamie Hepburn MSP Minister for Higher Education and Further Education, Youth Employment & Training



“The SCQF Partnership is a key part of our education system in Scotland, ensuring first class and lifelong education and training opportunities are available to all. The skills and qualifications we now offer our young people and, of course, our wider population, will help to underpin our future economic recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic, enabling our people to develop further and really flourish.

This has been a year unlike no other. I have been hugely impressed by the many ways in which the Partnership has pivoted to ensure continued excellence of delivery, despite the many challenges of Covid-19. I am especially pleased to see in this Annual Impact Report positive findings associated with online delivery of SCQF support and learning sessions, for

example the popularity of virtual engagement opportunities and improved accessibility which has resulted for many.

Even over this very different past year, I am delighted to see the continued roll out and success of the School Ambassador programme. Now with gold, silver and bronze levels to recognise and celebrate achievements, the programme is becoming ever-more valuable in promoting the rich and varied learning pathways offered by secondary schools to Senior Phase pupils. This approach to recognition of diverse opportunities, spanning a range of qualification types, helps equip our young learners with the knowledge, experiences and skills they will need to join and enrich Scotland’s future workforce.

My absolute priority remains to deliver excellence in teaching and equity across Scottish education, ensuring that health and wellbeing is prioritised while maximising learning and training opportunities as far as we possibly can. It is therefore more important than ever that we continue to invest in the right qualifications and the best types of learning to deliver positive outcomes for our young people, for our continuing learners and for the Scottish economy as a whole. I therefore congratulate the SCQF Partnership on its exceptional work this year.”

THE SCOTTISH CREDIT AND QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

This Framework diagram has been produced to show the mainstream Scottish qualifications already credit rated by SQA and HEIs. However, there are a diverse number of learning programmes on the Framework, which, due to the limitations of this format, cannot be represented here. For more information, please visit the SCQF website at www.scqf.org.uk to view the interactive version of the Framework or search the Database.



SCQF Levels	SQA Qualifications			Qualifications of Higher Education Institutions	Apprenticeships & SVQs
12				Doctoral Degree	Professional Apprenticeship
11				Masters Degree, Integrated Masters Degree, Post Graduate Diploma, Post Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship SVQ
10				Honours Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship
9			Professional Development Award	Bachelors / Ordinary Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ
8		Higher National Diploma		Diploma Of Higher Education	Higher Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ
7	Advanced Higher, Awards, Scottish Baccalaureate	Higher National Certificate		Certificate Of Higher Education	Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
6	Higher, Awards, Skills for Work Higher				Modern Apprenticeship Foundation Apprenticeship SVQ
5	National 5, Awards, Skills for Work National 5				Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
4	National 4, Awards, Skills for Work National 4	National Certificate	National Progression Award		SVQ
3	National 3, Awards, Skills for Work National 3				
2	National 2, Awards				
1	National 1, Awards				

Welcome to our Annual Impact Report for 2020/21

Chair & CEO's Report

This year has been a year like no other for the SCQF Partnership, as it has been for many other organisations. We have had to consider carefully how to respond in a way which continued to be customer facing, innovative and flexible.

We believe this annual report highlights just how we have done that and where we have added value to our varied stakeholders. We hope that you enjoy reading about some of these in more detail but would like to highlight the following.

Firstly, we had to bring all of our workshops online which we worked on over the Summer, offering the first batch in September 2020. The response has been hugely positive with every workshop fully booked within days of being advertised. We reflected on how to ensure that these online workshops continued to be as interactive as possible and provided delegates with the right information and the right approach.

We were asked by Skills Development Scotland to assist with the development of an Apprentice Transition Plan. This was to find a way of recording achievement for apprentices who had not been able to complete their qualification because of being furloughed or unable to access appropriate work based assessment. We have developed a resource pack for apprentices and for their assessors, along with an online training programme for the assessors. This guides them through a process which allows for a record of achievement to be issued which benchmarks transferable skills against the SCQF levels.

Quality assurance, as always, was still high on our agenda and we worked with our Credit Rating Bodies to develop a hybrid model of review which, whilst it did not involve an actual visit, did allow evidence to be uploaded, questions asked and an online meeting scheduled as appropriate. The feedback on this model has meant that we will consider how we can incorporate some of those aspects in to our quality assurance work post pandemic. Our Quality Committee oversaw this work led by our new committee chair, Professor Malcom Foley.

Requests for School Ambassador training continued to rise and we launched a tiered recognition element of the programme in August to make sure that all the great work on enhancing learning pathways being done in secondary schools across Scotland was being recognised, highlighted and celebrated.

As the pandemic made it necessary for us to delay our face-to-face conference, the SCQFP Team held the very first SCQF Week online 15-19 March 2021. Launched with a pre-recorded video of DFM, John Swinney MSP, SCQF Week showcased best practice in use of the SCQF across a range of sectors and raised awareness of the SCQFP's latest projects/developments amongst partners and stakeholders.

Like many others, we also refocused our communications style and social media to ensure that we were getting out simple, easy to engage with messages on topics which we thought would be of interest during a time when all of us were moving to both online working and learning.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all our partners and stakeholders for continuing to engage fully with us in what we know were trying times. We are considering what lessons we have learnt as a team and will be asking stakeholders for some feedback on what aspects of our service they would like expanded or retained in a virtual setting.



Rob Wallen

ROB WALLEN

Chair



Aileen M Ponton

AILEEN PONTON

Chief Executive



Our Vision

To work with our partners and stakeholders to ensure the SCQF is seen both nationally and internationally as a symbol of quality and underpins the development of a robust education and skills system in Scotland that is fit for the 21st century.



Our Mission

To ensure that the quality and integrity of the SCQF is maintained at all times and that the benefits of using the Framework are fully promoted to all stakeholders across Scotland and beyond.



Our Functions

The SCQF Partnership is a highly skilled team of experts with a wide range of functions including:

- The approval of new Credit Rating Bodies (CRBs) for the SCQF
- The quality assurance of a range of CRBs across the UK, in relation to their SCQF credit rating activity
- The support, monitoring and review of Scotland's colleges' credit rating activities
- Providing extensive and tailored support for existing CRBs on developing and maintaining processes for SCQF credit rating
- Offering non-biased, independent, expert advice to programme owners on the credit rating process, including information on potential Credit Rating Bodies in Scotland
- Running a wide range of workshops supporting programme owners, credit rating bodies and those who wish to adopt Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) principles
- Supporting employers in embedding the SCQF into their workforce development strategies
- Promoting and raising awareness of the benefits of the SCQF across all sectors both nationally and internationally

Our key offers

OUR LETTERS DO THE TALKING

scqf®

scottish credit and
qualifications framework

THE LETTER S... SKILLS RECOGNITION

We support recognition of skills and learning in all sectors and offer:

- Leadership in developing pathways and progression through our Ambassador programmes for schools and colleges
- Advice and support around the recognition of micro-credentials
- Experience in Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) processes, including credit transfer
- Experience in developing processes that support skills and qualification recognition

THE LETTER C... CAPACITY BUILDING

We are here to support Credit Rating Bodies (CRBs) in all aspects of credit rating and capacity building and offer:

- A wide range of free workshops, which are now available online
- 1-to-1 support for staff
- Tailored support in getting qualifications ready for credit rating
- Tailored support for CRBs in developing processes for credit rating and for the Recognition of Prior Learning
- Specific capacity building projects, often funded by the SCQFP

THE LETTER Q... QUALITY

We make sure you can trust in our national qualifications framework and offer:

- Clear principles and guidance for all CRBs
- A robust Quality Assurance Model
- An excellent international reputation allowing worldwide recognition of Scottish qualifications
- An easily accessible database of credit rated programmes

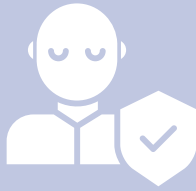
THE LETTER F... FLEXIBILITY

We provide resources which demonstrate our benefits and flexibility and offer:

- Support in understanding the benefits and processes of 3rd party credit rating
- Resources for employers on using the SCQF for effective recruitment and workforce development
- Learner support and guidance
- Case studies on all aspects of understanding the Framework
- Support, guidance and training online
- A highly experienced team skilled at working in partnership and able to demonstrate the flexibility of the SCQF

Our 6 Strategic priorities for 2019–22

1



MAINTAINING QUALITY AND INTEGRITY

by ensuring a robust quality assurance model is in place that provides comfort and mutual trust in Credit Rating Bodies and ultimately the Scottish education system

2



SUPPORTING SCQF CREDIT RATING BODIES

in building capacity and good practice in credit rating to enable them to plan and support a range of learner journeys

3



PROMOTING RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

to ensure unnecessary repetition of learning and equality for all learners

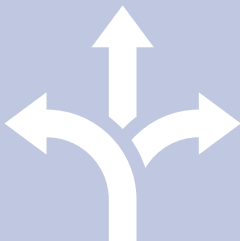
4



SUPPORTING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

by encouraging employers to develop inclusive workforce recruitment and development approaches using the SCQF and its resources

5



SUPPORTING THE LEARNER JOURNEY

helping all those engaged with education to use the SCQF as a tool to develop individual learning journeys and recognise equality of qualifications

6



SUPPORTING LEARNER MOBILITY INTERNATIONALLY

by promoting the worldwide reputation of the SCQF and engaging with international recognition tools for qualifications globally

2ND PHASE OF COLLEGE REVIEW PILOT COMPLETED



15

college review
activities completed

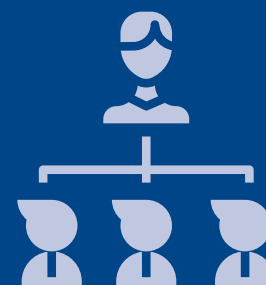


briefing sessions
held for Approved CRBs
on new QAM

Delivered



online workshops
for CRBs



New Chair appointed for QC

“I am delighted to be appointed to the role of Chair of the Quality Committee at the SCQF Partnership. I look forward to contributing to the outstanding work of the Partnership as it addresses the challenges facing education in Scotland and beyond.”

Professor Malcolm Foley
Chair of SCQFP Quality Committee



SCQF Database:

11,849

programmes owned
by 318 organisations

1,085

non-mainstream
programmes

234

new programmes added

63 PARTICIPANTS
from 13 CRBs
attended workshops
on credit rating

Four bespoke credit
rating workshops
delivered

Supported 14 colleges
& 7 universities with
online info sessions

New info page for CRB
staff on SCQF website

New CRB approved

“We are delighted and honoured to be awarded Credit Rating Body Status by the SCQF Partnership. The ASET International Oil & Gas Training Academy fulfils an important and integral role in supporting the ongoing skills development and continuing professional development of individuals employed in the UK Oil & Gas Industry and the wider energy industries. Our new relationship with the SCQF Partnership will add further value to our vocational training portfolio and underpin our commitment to supporting the education and skills agenda, particularly as our customers and industries transition into alternative sources of energy.”

Atholl Menzies, CEO, ASET



3,957

visitors to the RPL Tool

22



DELEGATES

from 16 organisations
attended our 3 RPL
workshops



Training on the Skills
Recognition Scotland
resource for recognising
the skills of refugees and
migrant workers delivered
to 23 practitioners from a
variety of organisations

VETERANS



Work continued on the veterans project during 2020-21 with more leaflets for different job roles produced. A number of discussions took place with a wide range of stakeholders to establish a Scottish Government funded project to help veterans identify the skills they have gained during their time in service. The project will start in April 2021 and this interactive resource will be hosted on the My World of Work web portal. There will also be a qualifications mapping tool developed which will allow service leavers to identify the benchmarked level of their qualifications against the SCQF.



15

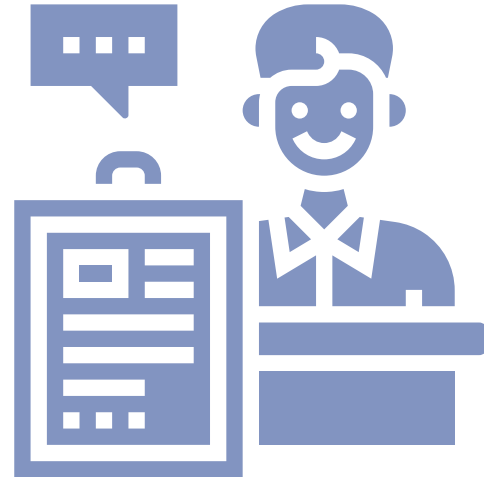
SCQF INCLUSIVE
RECRUITERS

97 EMPLOYERS USING
SCQF LEVELS TO
RECRUIT



177

employers engaged
through SCQF workshops,
presentations and online
events



APPRENTICE TRANSITION PLAN

The Apprentice Transition Plan (ATP) was a resource developed towards the end of 2020 by the SCQFP in Partnership with Skills Development Scotland.

The aim of the resource was to support apprentices who had been made redundant as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic by helping them to recognise their transferable skills and benchmark these to the SCQF.

The resource also helps to recognise any technical skills that may have been gained during the apprenticeship but have not been recognised as part of a formal qualification. So far, around 150 assessors from 49 different training providers have been trained to use the resource and are now working with apprentices.

11 new SCQF
School
Ambassadors



119 SAs
from 31 LAs in total

“The tiered framework provided our Pupil Ambassadors with a clear focus for getting the most out of the SCQF. It allowed them to plan and take ownership of their plans. As a result, the SCQF is embedded across the school and they have clear ideas for their next steps.”

Alan Hamilton
DHT, Stirling High School

“I have loved learning about the SCQF framework and sharing my knowledge with others. As we are drawing near the end of the year many of the S5 pupils are beginning to think more about their future careers. Our plans to develop and share learner pathways will help all pupils make the most of the opportunities the school offers.”

Liam, S5 Pupil Ambassador
Stirling High School

36

SA schools attended
online SCQF Sharing
Good Practice event

Launch of new tiered
recognition programme
for School Ambassadors

33

representatives from

28

organisations belong to
the SCQF Forum

63

attendees from

40

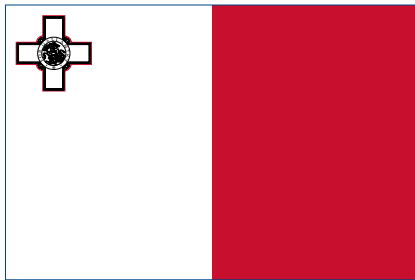
organisations took part
in Would You Credit It?
workshops



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



FINAL CONFERENCE TOOK PLACE



PROJECT FOCUSED ON RPL

completed for
Malta Qualifications
Framework (MQF)



Showcased how SCQFP works
with learners, employers & VE
sector to support recognition of
skills at the TAICEP conference

EU-FUNDED RESEARCH ON MICRO- CREDENTIALS COMPLETED

PROJECT EXAMINING THE IMPACT OF THE MALTA QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK (MQF)

In 2020-21 the SCQF Partnership completed a piece of work on behalf of the Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA) examining the impact of the Malta Qualifications Framework since its inception in 2007.

The objectives of this work were to:

- review and analyse the impact of the MQF across a wide number of sectors/stakeholders;
- provide recommendations on possible areas for improvement of the MQF and its referencing to the EQF; and
- provide recommendations for further implementing, promoting and regulating the MQF.

Scoping and inception reports were developed outlining methodology. Feedback was gained from a large number of stakeholders through a variety of methods including surveys, focus groups and interviews and this was analysed in conjunction with colleagues in MFHEA. The final report was completed and sent through to Malta in March 2021 and received very positive feedback.

SCQF website & social media



Covid-19 impacted our digital communications by affecting many of our planned activities.

We adapted our messaging to suit the situation and to provide individuals with the information they required during this unprecedented time.

WEBSITE



154,000
USERS

37.5k
FRAMEWORK
DIAGRAM
VIEWS

20k
SCQF
DATABASE
VIEWS

1300
BLOG VIEWS FOR
Help for individuals worried about
the impact of Covid-19 on future
learning or career options

332,000
PAGE VIEWS

3.2k
RESOURCES
VIEWS

3k
RPL TOOL
VIEWS

8/10
USER SURVEY
Had a good online experience

SOCIAL MEDIA



6,000
TWITTER FOLLOWERS

+11%
INCREASE IN
FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS

+22%
INCREASE IN
LINKEDIN FOLLOWERS

2020/21 Highlights



SCQF Week 2021

Join in from 15-19th March

#RecognisingSkills #RecogniseMySkills

SCQF WEEK 2021

The SCQFP Team held the very first SCQF Week online 15-19 March 2021.

SCQF Week showcased best practice in use of the SCQF across a range of sectors and aimed to raise awareness of the SCQFP's latest projects/developments amongst partners and stakeholders.

A major part of the week's activities included live sessions of interest to employers, schools, colleges and SCQF Credit Rating Bodies. Colleagues from Education Scotland, University of the West of Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service co-hosted sessions with the SCQFP Team and provided valuable insights from their own experiences of using the SCQF.

We also encouraged engaged stakeholders to participate in the week's activity by sharing their SCQF stories across social media. This really helped to highlight the important part the SCQF plays in the learner journey and during the week our tweets earned 94K impressions. The team worked really hard to make it an engaging and dynamic event and it was such a success that we have decided to make it an annual thing!

90k

IMPRESSIONS

During March SCQF Week on Twitter and 1.2% Engagement Rate



mentions

499^{+177%}



interactions

2.9K^{+120%}



reach

1.5M^{+226%}



shares

2.2K^{+104%}



likes

713^{+191%}



social mentions

499^{+183%}

THE MOVE TO ONLINE WORKSHOPS

As the coronavirus pandemic took hold of the world and prolonged lockdown was implemented in the UK, we started to look at how we could deliver our most popular workshops online.

After a lot of work from the team's Administrators and Development Officers, we launched online versions of the School Ambassador training and Would You Credit It?, Credit Rating in Practice for CRBs, QA for Credit Rating, Learning Outcomes and Assessment, My Skills, My Future and Intro to RPL workshops.

It has been a really interesting process and useful to note that colleagues are now participating who may not have previously attended our training in person due to cost/travel constraints. Online workshops will continue to be offered until such times as restrictions are eased.

LAUNCH OF SCQF SCHOOL AMBASSADOR RECOGNITION PROGRAMME

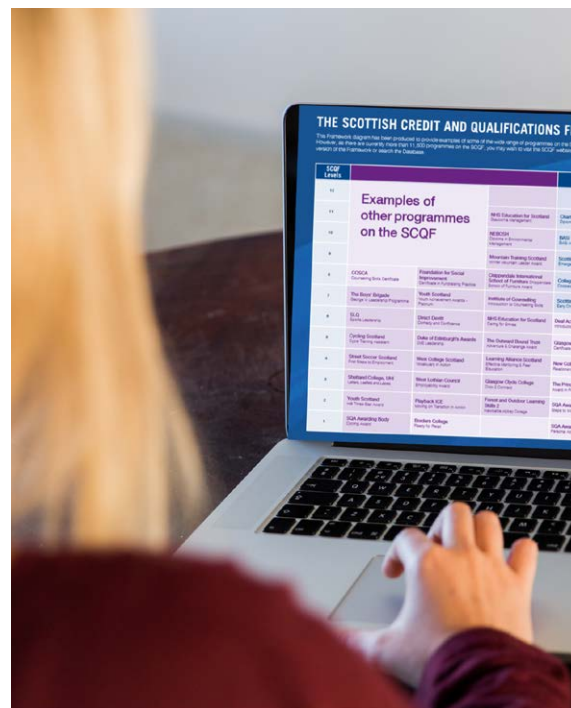
In 2015, we launched the SCQF School Ambassador programme.

This offers secondary schools the opportunity to learn more about the benefits of the SCQF and the ways in which it supports learners such as recognising wider achievement, developing Senior Phase learning pathways in line with the DYW strategy, and demonstrating equality between vocational and academic qualifications.

We launched a tiered recognition element of the programme last August to make sure that all the great work on enhancing learning pathways being done in secondary schools across Scotland is recognised, highlighted and celebrated.

There are now 3 levels (Bronze, Silver and Gold) in the process, with schools required to upload evidence to demonstrate how they are meeting the criteria of each level.

The first schools to achieve Bronze status are Kilmarnock Academy, Drummond CHS and the West Lothian Skills Centre and the very first Silver level school is Stirling High School.



Financial Statement

Scottish Credit And Qualifications Framework Partnership Statement Of Financial Activities For The Year Ended 31 March 2021

(Including Income And Expenditure Account)

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Income from:						
Donations and legacies	475,000	326,129	801,129	475,000	240,109	715,109
Charitable activities	32,744	127,965	160,709	25,633	32,593	58,226
Investments	161	–	161	1,642	–	1,642
Total Income	507,905	454,094	961,999	502,275	272,702	774,977
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	391,940	369,438	761,378	443,744	271,740	715,484
Total Expenditure	391,940	369,438	761,378	443,744	271,740	715,484
Net income/(expenditure)	115,965	84,656	200,621	58,531	962	59,493
Transfers between funds	45,606	(45,606)	–	13,812	(13,812)	–
Net movement in funds	161,571	39,050	200,621	72,343	(12,850)	59,493
Total Funds brought forward	362,060	5,000	367,060	289,717	17,850	307,567
Total Funds carried forward	523,631	44,050	567,681	362,060	5,000	367,060

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The information presented above is not the charity's statutory accounts but a summary of information relating to the Statement of Financial Activities.

The statutory accounts have been externally scrutinised by Henderson Loggie who audited the statutory accounts and their report thereon contained an unqualified audit opinion.

The statutory accounts were formally approved by the Trustees of the charity on 25 June 2021.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



We confirm that the above summarised financial information is consistent with the audited financial statements of the Scottish Credit & Qualifications Framework Partnership for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Henderson Loggie
Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditor

SCQF PARTNERSHIP BOARD OF MANAGEMENT



SCQF PARTNERSHIP EXECUTIVE TEAM



www.scqf.org.uk

A REGISTERED SCOTTISH CHARITY SC037958

scqf | SCOTLAND'S LIFELONG LEARNING FRAMEWORK



scqf®

scottish credit and
qualifications framework