

QUALIFICATIONS WALES ACT 2015

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Schedule 3: Further Provision about Recognition of Awarding Bodies

Paragraphs 19 to 23: Withdrawal of Recognition

160. These paragraphs enable Qualifications Wales to end its recognition of an awarding body in respect of a qualification (or description of qualification) or every qualification in respect of which the awarding body is recognised. Recognition may be withdrawn only if the awarding body does not comply with conditions of recognition or conditions of approval. The consequences of withdrawal of recognition are that Qualifications Wales is then able to withdraw approval of qualifications under section 27, that designation would cease under section 30 and that the awarding body is no longer able to apply for approval or designation of its qualifications. Only recognised bodies can apply for approval or designation of their qualifications.
161. The process for withdrawing recognition is set out in paragraphs 20 to 22 and includes requirements to give notice with reasons for the proposal to withdraw, to consider representations made by the recognised body, to notify the recognised body of a decision to withdraw and its right to review and to make arrangements for an independent review of the decision to withdraw if the awarding body requests such a review. If following the review Qualifications Wales confirms its decision to withdraw recognition, the recognised awarding body must be notified of the decision and when the withdrawal will take effect.
162. [Paragraph 23](#) sets out that notices given by Qualifications Wales under paragraphs 21 or 22 (withdrawing recognition, or confirming withdrawal of recognition) can make a provision to the effect that a body that has had its recognition withdrawn, continues to be treated as if it is recognised for a specified time and for specified purposes. This is to avoid prejudice to learners. The notice must include the additional information set out in [paragraph 23\(3\)](#). Similar provision is made in respect of the withdrawal of approval (see the notes accompanying section 28).