

*These notes refer to the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 (c.22) which received Royal Assent on 12 November 2009*

# **APPRENTICESHIPS, SKILLS, CHILDREN AND LEARNING ACT 2009**

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## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

#### **Part 8: the Qualifications and Curriculum Development Agency**

##### *Chapter 5: General*

##### *Schedule 12: Ofqual and the QCDA: minor and consequential amendments* (4)

**Amendments to the provisions in the Education Act 1997 governing the regulation of qualifications in Wales, keeping the regulatory powers of Welsh Ministers broadly in step with those of Ofqual (paragraphs 14-19)**

##### *Paragraph 17*

554. Paragraph 17 inserts into the 1997 Act a new section 32ZA containing power for the Welsh Ministers to co-operate or work jointly with a relevant authority in connection with carrying out their qualifications functions. A “relevant authority” is a person (whether or not in the UK) carrying out functions which are similar to the functions of the Welsh Ministers in relation to qualifications. The Welsh Ministers may provide information to such an authority, subject to any such disclosure not being in contravention of any other Act. The Welsh Ministers may establish joint committees where appropriate to do so for the carrying out of any of their qualifications functions and may delegate any of their qualifications functions to such a committee on such terms as they determine. The Welsh Ministers with any other person with whom they established the committee, may direct the committee as to what it may do.
555. These powers taken together will enable the continued operation of the three-country framework, whereby the qualifications regulators in Wales, England and Northern Ireland work together on the regulation of qualifications across all three countries.