

30 April 2012

### **A message from our Chief Executive**

Now that we have achieved publication of the final documents for Courses at National 2 to Higher, I would like to recognise the contribution made by all of our partners, stakeholders, interested parties and members of the public who have given their feedback so far.

This is a huge milestone for SQA. We are committed to Curriculum for Excellence and the introduction of the new qualifications and will ensure that the new system is as robust and credible as its predecessor.

In an unprecedented level of engagement, we are receiving feedback through many sources, for example:

- the [Have Your Say](#) facility on our website
- formally established groups such as our [Curriculum Area Review Groups \(CARGs\)](#) and [Qualifications Design Teams \(QDTs\)](#)
- correspondence from customers and stakeholders
- targeted engagement activities, for example with classroom teachers, local authorities, professional teaching associations, higher education institutions and employers

Your feedback has led to changes and improvements as we develop the new qualifications. Find out more about how we are using your feedback at [www.sqa.org.uk/yourfeedback](http://www.sqa.org.uk/yourfeedback).

So far, 169 CARG members and 630 QDT members have met over 400 times.

Our CfE team has also attended over 700 meetings, held eight curriculum area events and has carried out targeted engagement with over 5,000 practitioners. A further 20 curriculum support events with practitioners are planned in May and September.

We are developing 232 Courses at many levels and across many subjects.

The scale of the development is vast and I would like to thank everyone who has helped us to reach this significant point in the development process.

As practitioners, employers, parents, partners, industry representatives and university/college representatives, you have worked collaboratively with us to help us make the qualifications the best they can be.

SQA will continue to engage with - and provide support to - practitioners, schools, colleges and local authorities throughout the implementation process to ensure the new qualifications are a success. Together, we will deliver for the young people of Scotland.

Our next phase of development is working on the new qualifications at Advanced Higher. Please continue to give us your feedback and help us to shape the qualifications for young people of the future.

Thank you for being part of this process.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Janet Brown'.

Dr Janet Brown, Chief Executive, Scottish Qualifications Authority