



2 March 2017

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Dear John,

University of the West of England

I can confirm that the statements made in Sarah Gutteridge's email to you of 26 February 2016 with respect to the status of postgraduate diplomas awarded by UK degree awarding bodies, such as the University of the West of England, are true and accurate.

The Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) has a statutory duty for assessing the quality of education in the universities and colleges that it funds or is considering funding in the future, as set out under section 70 of the Further and Higher Education Act 1992. Since Sarah wrote to you earlier last year HEFCE has introduced a revised approach to quality assessment in England which is designed to be proportionate and risk-based. These changes follow a review on future approaches to assessing the quality of education undertaken jointly by the higher education funding bodies in England, Northern Ireland and Wales. However, these changes do not affect the validity of the statements made in Sarah's email about the status of postgraduate diplomas.

Further information about the new approach to quality assessment is provided at <http://www.hefce.ac.uk/reg/QualityAssessment/>.

Please feel free to share this letter as you see fit, and to contact me again should you require any further assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'w.naylor'.

Will Naylor
Director of Colleges and Alternative Providers