Written response to the recommendations from Scottish Qualifications Authority

Since last writing to you in December 2006, SQA has continued to take its responsibilities in ensuring Equal Opportunities very seriously.

We have now:

- launched an Equalities page on our website in August 2007
- appointed an Equalities Officer in May 2007
- published Equality Schemes and Action Plans in line with legislative requirements (December 2006)
- published an Equalities leaflet *Qualifications for All: Equality Mainstreaming at SQA*. This leaflet invites individuals to share their views on equality issues and seeks their advice on how any barriers can be removed in accessing our products and services.
- completed awareness raising workshops, and where relevant, carried out more in-depth training of staff
- started the process of impact assessment to identify where products and services need to brought into line with legislative requirements, building on areas of existing good practice. Our progress is tracked and reported to our Management Team.

Finally, like other public bodies, we are producing an Annual Review of our progress with our published action plans. This will be considered by our Board in December and will then be published on our website. I will forward a copy to you for information.

Janet Brown  
Chief Executive  
Scottish Qualifications Authority  
28 November 2007