OCR Position Statement

A2C Statement – December 2015

Background

- OCR recognises that EDI is no longer fit for purpose as it does not support the full range of qualifications. We recognise that a better solution is needed for our customers.
- OCR has developed an A2C solution that has been used in the small scale November 2015 pilot with Capita SIMS and C2K.
- A2C pilots have been generally much more limited than expected as very few suppliers and not all Awarding Organisations were ready.

The issue

- The pilot proved that adopting A2C, particularly in legacy systems was far more complex than expected.
- As a result of this, Capita SIMS announced that they will be rolling back to EDI following the November 2015 pilot, and will not be ready to engage in any further pilots until 2017.
- AQA then announced that they will not be ready to pilot until September 2018.

OCR’s response

In light of this, OCR has felt it necessary to re-consider its business priorities for the coming 2 years. We have invested a significant amount of money, time and effort into the A2C Programme to get us to the point that we were ready to pilot. However, with the competing priority of all our products going through reform at the moment, we have had to question how much effort we can continue to invest in A2C. As a result of this, we confirm that:

- OCR will not engage in any more live pilots until all JCQ Awarding Organisations are ready to pilot.
- OCR will seek to re-commence cross-industry testing in September 2017.
- OCR will maintain a ‘lite-touch’ engagement with the A2C programme until September 2017, when we plan to fully re-engage.