



FACULTY OFFICE

Minutes of the Meeting of the Qualifications Board
held remotely via Zoom
on Friday 28 October 2022

Present: Nicholas Hatzis (Chair)
Roger Eastman
Alex Galloway
Anna Ostrowska
Iain Ostrowski-Rogers
Elaine Standish

In attendance:
Ugljesa Grusic
Ian Blaney, Deputy Registrar, Faculty Office
Patrick Roberts, Clerk, Faculty Office

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Nicola Brant, Jenni Kennedy, Sophie Milburn and Howard Dellar.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

With one typographical amendment to item 5 (replacing 'there' with 'the'), these were confirmed as correct mutatis mutandis and will be signed by the Chairman at the next in-person meeting.

3. MATTERS ARISING NOT OTHERWISE ON THE AGENDA

Roger Eastman delivered the sad news that Board member Patrick Maddams had died in October after a brief illness. Details as to a memorial service at the Temple Church will be relayed in due course. Patrick's death and the recent resignation of Cat Farrow from the Board require that new lay members of the Board be appointed swiftly in order to meet the LSB guidelines requiring a lay majority and suggestions for future members will be welcomed.

4. NOTARIAL PRACTICE COURSE

Dr Grusic reported that the first in-person graduation in three years had taken place in September. There are presently 43 students in Year One and 59 in Year Two. Given the size of Year 2 there has been a re-structuring of the teaching approach to allow students three online workshops a term instead of one, with Private International Law undergoing the same restructuring.

5. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

The sub-committee had not met.

6. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF EXEMPTION

(a) New Applicants

- 1) MS (2022/52) – is a solicitor in a general practice who is applying for a full Certificate of Exemption. The Board agreed that they be granted exemptions in the five ‘core’ subjects and in Wills Probate & Administration but requires that they provide further information as to experience of Company Law and Conveyancing including number and type of cases handled. This application to be referred back to the full Board.
- 2) BC (2022/53) – is a solicitor working part-time in general practice for three practices and who is applying for a full Certificate of Exemption. The Board agreed that they be granted exemptions in the five ‘core’ subjects but requires that they provide more information of their caseloads as regard the three professional subjects. The Board also requires that they clarify their location and working pattern (including time spent in each practice) in order to clarify their stated ‘part-time’ status. This application to be referred back to the full Board.
- 3) EL (2022/54) – is a recent graduate who is applying for a full Certificate of Exemption on the basis of in-date qualifications. The Board agreed that they be granted an exemption from the five ‘core’ subjects and in Conveyancing and Company Law but requires that they provide the Stage 2 transcript of their Legal Practice Course in order to demonstrate whether they completed an elective in Wills

Probate & Administration. This application to be referred back to the full Board.

- 4) PP (2022/55) – is an in-house counsel who is applying for a full Certificate of Exemption. The Board agreed that they be granted an exemption from the five ‘core’ subjects and in Conveyancing and Company Law on the basis of in-date qualifications but requires that they obtain a module in Wills Probate & Administration as they had not completed a discrete module in that.
- 5) SW (2022/56) – is a safeguarding solicitor for a local authority who is applying for a full Certificate of Exemption on the basis of having previously worked as a solicitor and barrister in the Caribbean where they are also an admitted Notary. The Board considered this application as it had been made out not to be capable of being eligible for exemptions. The Board directed that the applicant be invited to reapply either demonstrating relevant practice and experience. They were also entitled to apply under Rule 8 although the Board would still need to be furnished with the same or similar information on relevant practice and experience covering the areas in which they sought exemption.
- 6) YG (2022/57) – is a solicitor in a general practice who qualified in India and then in England and Wales under the QLTT and is applying for a full Certificate of Exemption. The Board agreed that they be granted exemptions in the five ‘core’ subjects but requires that they provide more information of their caseloads (as to type and numbers) as regard the three professional subjects.
- 7) AM (2022/58) – is a recent graduate working as a paralegal who is applying for a full Certificate of Exemption on the basis of in-date qualifications. The Board agreed that they be granted exemptions in the five ‘core’ subjects and in Company Law and Conveyancing but that they obtain a module in Wills Probate & Administration which had not been separately examined.
- 8) SK (2022/23) – is a trainee solicitor who is applying for a full Certificate of Exemption on the basis of in-date qualifications. The Board agreed that they be granted a full Certificate of Exemption.

- 9) KN (2022/59) – is a solicitor in a general practice who is applying for a full Certificate of Exemption on the basis of in-date qualifications. The Board agreed that they be granted a full Certificate of Exemption.
- 10) TM (2022/60) – is a solicitor in a general practice and Qualified Chartered Governance Professional who is applying for a full Certificate of Exemption. The Board agreed that they be granted exemptions in the five ‘core’ subjects and in Company Law but requires that they provide further information as to her (largely pro bono) practice and experience in Conveyancing and Wills Probate & Administration. They mention the number of cases but not what they were about.
- 11) OM (2022/61) – is a paralegal who is applying for a full Certificate of Exemption on the grounds of in-date qualifications. The Board agreed that subject to the provision of a second reference they be granted a full Certificate of Exemption.
- 12) AW (2022/62) – is a solicitor working as a sole practitioner who is applying for a full Certificate of Exemption. The Board agreed that they be granted a full Certificate of Exemption on the basis of their practical experience.

(b) Further Consideration

- 1) AA (2021/49) – is a solicitor in general practice who had originally applied for a full Certificate of Exemption on the grounds of experience. The Board had required further information of the applicants’ experience in the three professional subjects but had declined to grant any exemptions therein. The applicant had been in various contact with the Faculty Office in the past 16 months but on the papers provided the Board continues to require that they obtain the three modules required and will accept no further correspondence otherwise.
- 2) CG (2021/27) – is a sole practitioner who had originally applied for a full Certificate of Exemption on the grounds of experience. The Board had granted exemptions in the five ‘core’ subjects and in Company Law but required that they obtain modules in Conveyancing and in Wills Probate & Administration. The applicant had provided further

information of their experience in Conveyancing and the Board had granted a further exemption therein while still requiring that a module be obtained in Wills Probate & Administration. The applicant had sought to offer further information in this area. The Board directed that they be informed that the information currently provided is not sufficient and that they be required to produce evidence of regular and substantial work undertaken in Wills and Probate in English law over the past 2-3 years. This application to be referred back to the full Board.

- 3) SM (2022/37) – is a solicitor in a general practice and a STEP practitioner who had originally applied for a full Certificate of Exemption on the grounds of experience. The Board had agreed that they be granted exemptions in the five ‘core’ subjects and in Conveyancing and Wills Probate & Administration but that they be required to obtain a module in Company Law. By email of 26 July, the applicant had provided further information of their experience in Company Law and asked that this be taken into consideration by the Board. The Board declined to grant the further exemption and requires that they obtain a module in Company Law.

7. APPLICATIONS FOR RECOGNITION UNDER RULE 8.2

There were none.

8. APPLICATIONS FOR VALIDATION OF COURSES

There were none.

9. REFERENCES TO BOARD PURSUANT TO THE SCRIVENERS (QUALIFICATION) RULES 2019

There were none.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Anna Ostrowska asked that she be replaced on the sub-committee of the Board as she would be unable to discharge her duties at short notice. As there are no applications referred to the s-c between now and the December meeting it was agreed that this be discussed in person at the next meeting.

11.DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

12 December in person at the Faculty Office.