

The targeted review of qualifications – mandatory reviews



March 2013



~ Targeted review of qualifications – what was it?

A targeted review of qualifications at levels 1-6 undertaken during 2009 which identified:

- qualification system was not understood by learners, parents, employers and others
- too many qualifications and duplication
- pathways to further education and employment not clear
- high cost of developing qualifications

~ Targeted review of qualifications

Led to the most significant changes to the qualifications system since the National Qualifications Framework was established in the early 1990s

Changes include:

- Simplifying the qualifications system

New Zealand Qualifications Framework

- Ensuring qualifications are fit-for-purpose and relevant
- Reducing the number of qualifications by removing duplication and proliferation

~ How are the changes being achieved?

- New rules for qualification design – New Zealand qualifications at levels 1-6
- Mandatory reviews of qualifications

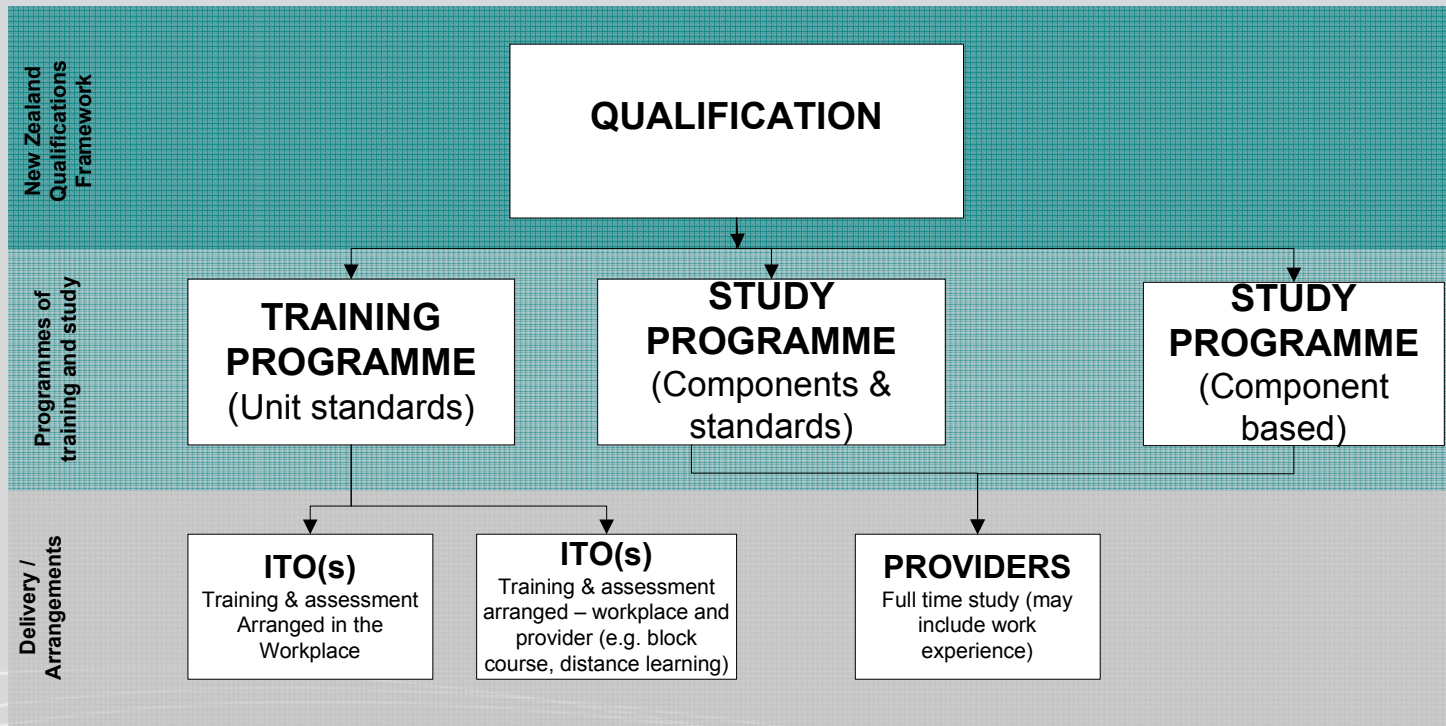
~ New Zealand qualifications - what has changed?

- Since late 2010 New Zealand qualifications have been replacing local provider and National qualifications at levels 1 – 6
- Qualifications based on industry or community workforce **needs**
- Clear and structured graduate **outcomes**
- Identified education and employment **pathways**
- Qualifications are developed **collaboratively**
- **Flexible** programmes to meet learner needs

~ Mandatory reviews of qualifications

- Mandatory reviews commenced 2011, first round will be complete by the end of 2014
- All qualifications at levels 1-6 are being reviewed in “clusters”
- Opportunity to “step back” and take a fresh look at all the qualifications available and pathways between qualifications
- Driven from identified workforce needs

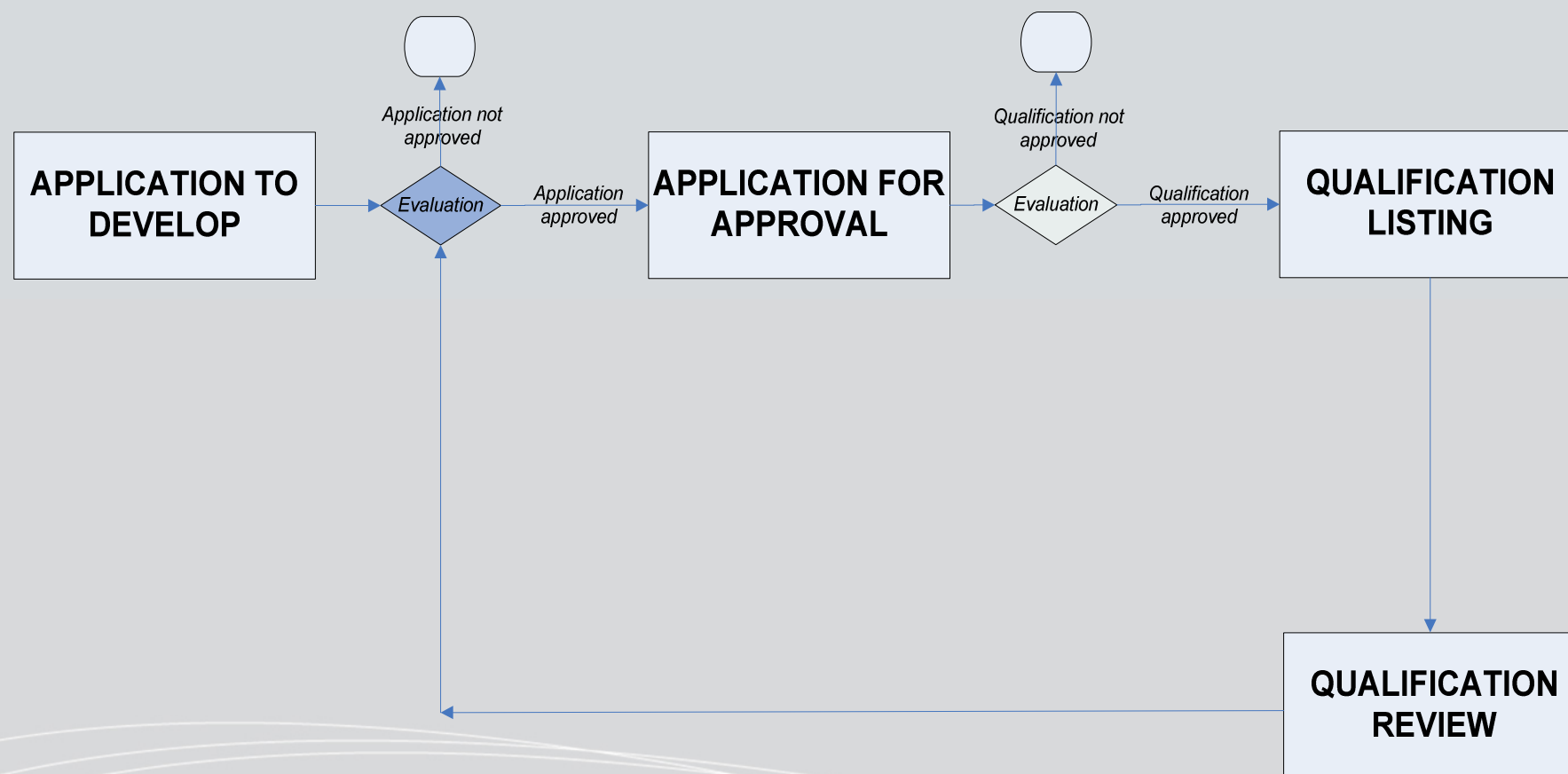
Relationship between qualification and programme



~ What a new qualification looks like

- Qualification details e.g. Title, type, level, credits and NZSCEd etc
- Strategic Purpose Statement
- Outcome Statement e.g. Graduate profile, education and employment pathways
- Specification
 - ensures there is sufficient information for programme developers to meet the graduate profile
 - differentiates mandatory and optional conditions for qualification and/or individual outcomes

Lifecycle of a qualification



What happens in a review?

Pre-work

- Gather information to determine sector workforce needs and skills
- Stakeholder Profile
- Determine governance and working structures

Review phase 1

- Prepare and confirm a revised map or ‘suite of qualifications’
- Prepare new qualifications for pre-approval – to be “good enough”
- Report on learning and the “story” of the decisions made to NZQA

Review phase 2

- Complete qualification development

Challenges in the review process

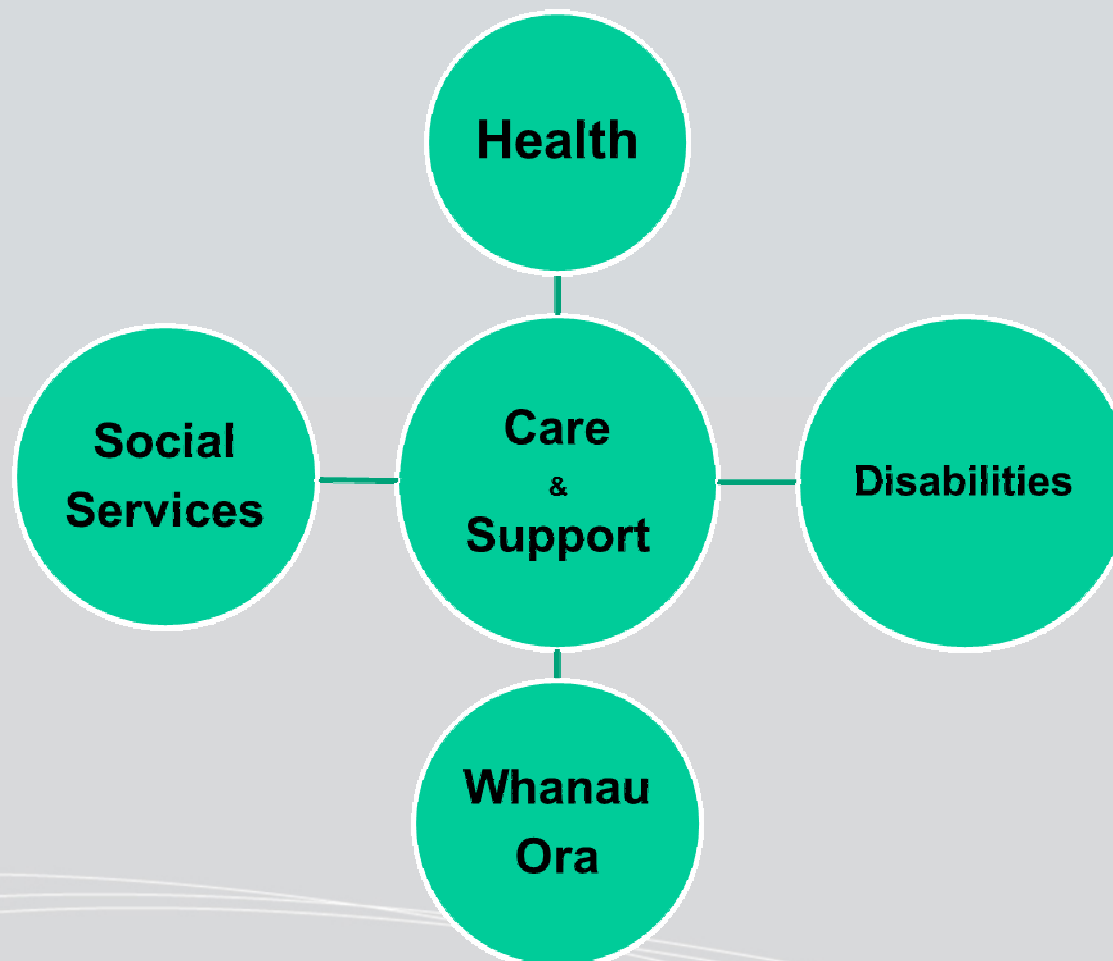
- Needs – evidence based, step back, take a fresh look
- Planning – 6 month timeline
- Governance
- Consultation
- Communication and information
- Use the guidelines
- Competing needs – funding, immigration, TEO business

Targets – progress to January 2013

		No. of qualifications at levels 1-6 on the NZQF	% reduction
July 2010	Baseline	4601	0%
January 2013		2819	39%
	Cumulative reduction from mandatory reviews to date		79%

Overall target is around 1300 qualifications at levels 1 - 6 by the end of 2014
(approximate reduction of 70%)

REVIEW COVERAGE



The next six months

MARCH

- **Review Plan – Structure, Approach**
- Stakeholder Profile
- NEEDS ANALYSIS

JUNE

- Qualification/s - Number, level, discipline
- CONSULTATION

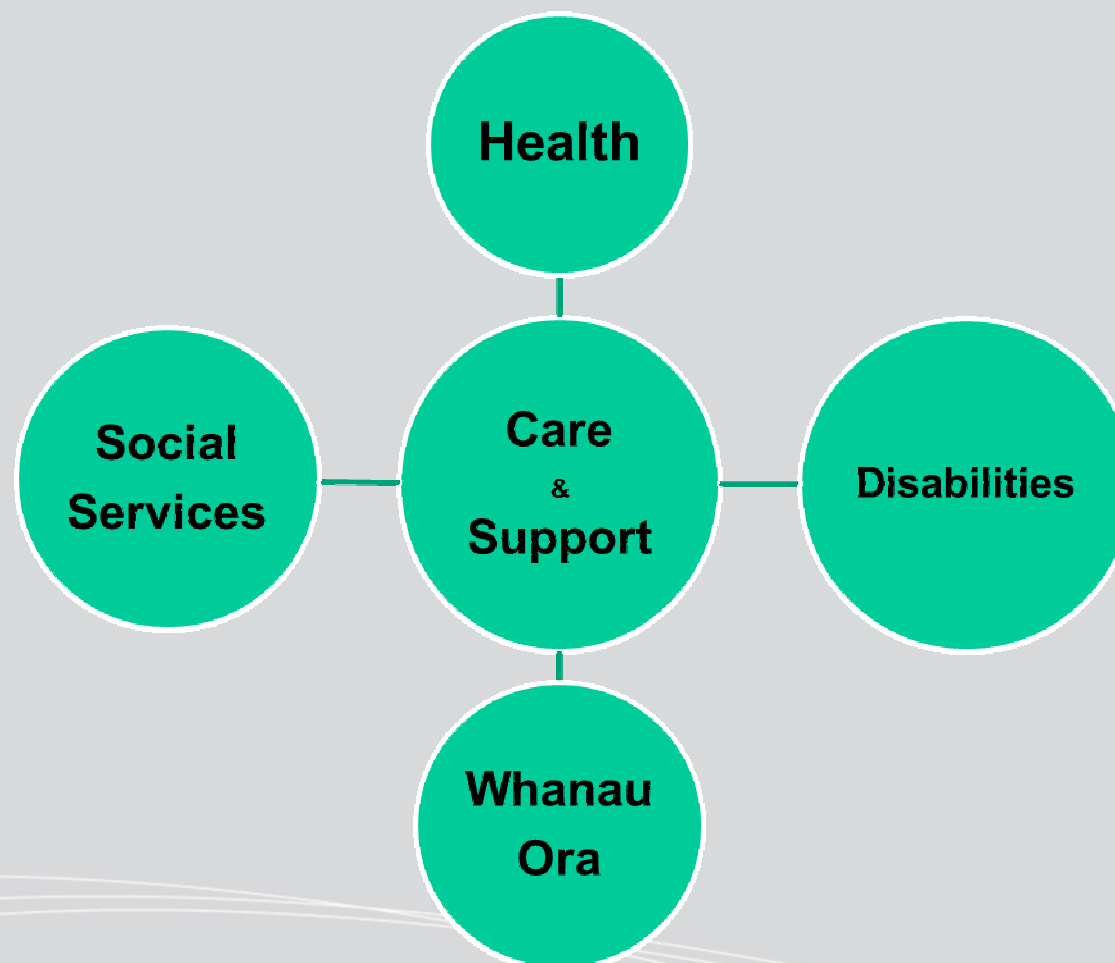
AUG

- Strategic Purpose Statement
- Outcome Statement
- CONSULTATION

SEPT

- Application
- Review report

REVIEW STAKEHOLDERS



Governance and operations

- How decisions will be made
- How the qualification work will be undertaken

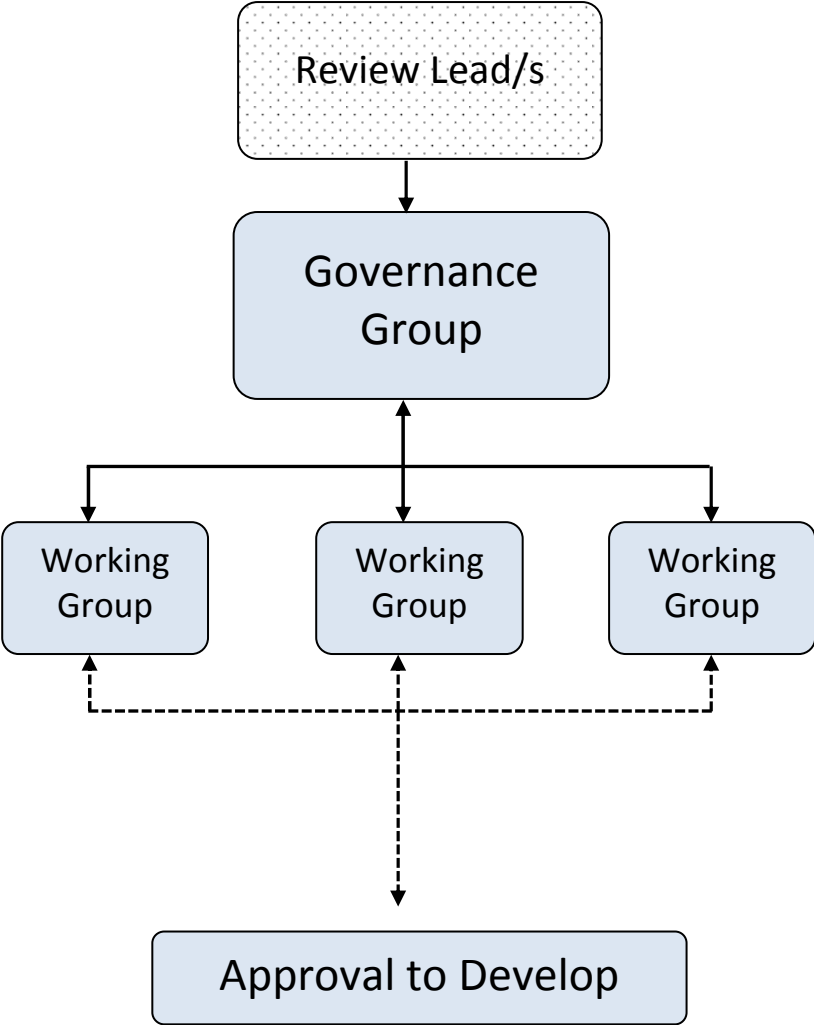
Decision making group

- Representative, credible
- Have authority to sign off on behalf of their stakeholders
- Strategic view across the sectors included in the review
- Consider current and future workforce development needs

Working Group

- Undertake the initial qualification development work
- Should include people with a range of educational expertise as well as those with technical knowledge

GENERIC CLUSTERS



STREAM APPROACH

