Dear Mr Dornan,

We are grateful for the opportunity to comment on the performance of the SQA and Education Scotland against the outcomes they are seeking to achieve and how outcomes are measured.

However, on this occasion we will not be submitting a written response. Our Forum is volunteer led and we aim to represent the views of the wider parent forum in each of the local authorities across Scotland. Whilst our volunteers have an in-depth knowledge of Scottish Education and the terminology that goes with it, we feel that all of the provided documents: the SQA’s Budget Allocation and monitoring letter from Scottish Government; The SQA Corporate Plan; the Education Scotland Strategic Goals; and the submissions from the two organisations, were totally inaccessible to average parents. We do not have the capacity to be able to ‘translate’ these documents for regular parents to gather opinions, and thus feel that we are unable to represent an authentic parental perspective on performance.

We do find it disappointing that these organisations do not provide communications for parents that are more accessible and would welcome the opportunity to meet and discuss this further. We would also have some general points on the performance of both organisations from our volunteers that we would welcome the opportunity to share with you in a private meeting.

Kind regards,

Joanna Murphy
Chair, National Parent Forum of Scotland