Dear Jack,

Petition P-06-1228 - Give secondary teachers a bonus for marking and standardizing summer 2021 official assessments

Thank you for your letter of 25 March, in which you asked why the research report on the experiences of centre staff on grading in summer 2021 is being delayed until May. I can confirm that publication of the research report is not being delayed.

In our letter dated 28 January, we made reference to having received interim findings from the research. These were given to us in the form of a presentation from the research supplier, and when those interim findings were produced the data collection and analysis on the project were not yet complete. May was therefore our estimate of when we would be in a position to publish, taking into account the time needed to complete the report and prepare it for publication. This also avoids publication during the period of the upcoming local elections.

To avoid misunderstandings about how useful the report might be to the committee, I would like to be clear that this research aimed to improve our understanding of the centre determined grading process from the perspective of teachers. The amount of data collected directly related to the petition was quite limited.

We did not ask questions specifically on the topic of remuneration. The sample for the survey element of the research was also a convenience sample, so findings cannot be generalised for a Wales-wide representation. Which means the report is unlikely to provide definitive evidence either way on the question raised by the petition.

Yours sincerely

Philip Blaker,
Chief Executive