

## Summary report about the consultation on *Chapter B11: Research degrees* of the UK Quality Code for Higher Education

This report summarises responses received to the consultation on *Chapter B11: Research degrees* of the UK Quality Code for Higher Education, which ran between 23 January and 23 March 2012. It provides an outline of who contributed to the consultation, and some of the key themes raised.

### Event attendance

QAA ran two events as part of this consultation, one in London (27 February 2012) and one in Glasgow (14 March 2012). The latter was supported by Universities Scotland, Glasgow Caledonian University and Edinburgh Napier University. The main purpose of the events was to support higher education providers, students and other interested parties in formulating their responses to the consultation.

The table below shows attendance at both events by institution/organisation type.

	London (Woburn House)	Glasgow (Glasgow Caledonian University)	Total as a percentage
<b>Registered delegates</b>	86	20	N/A
<b>Higher education institutions</b>	77	18	90%
<b>Further education colleges</b>	0	0	0%
<b>Private providers</b>	3	0	3%
<b>Sector/funding bodies</b>	3	1	4%
<b>Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies (PSRBs)</b>	1	0	1%
<b>Student bodies/representatives</b>	1	0	1%
<b>Other</b>	1	1	2%

Further details from the consultations events, including presentations and a summary of the feedback, can be found [here](#).

### Survey respondents

A total of 143 responses were received to the consultation. The table below shows respondents by institution/organisation type.

<b>Total number of respondents</b>	143
<b>Higher education institutions</b>	127 (89%)
<b>Further education colleges</b>	3 (2%)
<b>Private providers</b>	0 (0%)
<b>Sector/funding/statutory bodies</b>	1 (1%)
<b>PSRBs</b>	0 (0%)
<b>Student bodies/representatives</b>	1 (1%)
<b>Academic/learned societies</b>	3 (2%)
<b>Other</b>	8 (5%)

## **Key areas of interest**

Respondents were generally supportive of the content of the Chapter, but highlighted a number of areas where further clarification or explanation might be required.

Areas attracting particular interest were as follows.

- The overall structure of the Chapter.
- The status/position of the Chapter in relation to the wider regulatory environment.
- The scope of the Chapter in relation to professional doctorates.
- The scope of the Chapter in relation to research master's degrees.
- The extent and nature of references to collaborative provision.
- The extent and nature of references to Doctoral Training Centres.
- References to and the definition of the 'supervisory team'.