



Release 13 – LRS Learning Aims Reference Data Changes Impacting the PLR

In 2015, Ofqual set out its plans to withdraw the rules for the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF). In order to support this change, Ofqual has transformed its current Regulatory IT system RITS).

Currently, the Personal Learning Record (PLR), is solely populated by qualification/unit provision recognised on the Ofqual RITS Register. Currently the Personal Learning Record (PLR) is solely populated by qualification and unit information held within RITS.

Ofqual's changes directly impact the LRS and require us to make some backend system changes for service continuity. Two of the key areas affected, are the Personal Learning Record and Achievement Management.

Making these changes is an opportunity for us to expand the type and level of achievements that can be uploaded to the PLR by having the ability to consume multiple reference data feeds (such as, Qualifications in Wales, Apprenticeship Standards) from different sources. This will enhance the richness of the PLR record, and give providers, employers and learners a wider range of achievement types.

Next Steps

The LRS took one final feed from Ofqual on the 20th June 2016, before they turned off RITS. LRS won't take any more feeds for a period of five/six months whilst we work on the LRS system changes (Release 13) to support the reforms. The implication of this is that awarding organisations won't be able to upload any **qualification/unit data with a regulation start date from the 20th June 2016** on to the PLR.

After careful consultation with Ofqual, we believe only a small number of PLR records will be affected during this period. We are comfortable awarding organisations will be able to upload GCSE and A-Level results over the summer, without further disruption.

Release 13 is expected to go live by the end of November 2016. At which point we will take a full synch of the data from Ofqual, allowing awarding organisations to retrospectively upload achievement records, held back to support the LRS system changes.

Decommissioning Functionality

In addition to making the necessary system changes, we are decommissioning some functionality which support QCF:



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Rules of Combination (RoC) – referred to regulatory rules around how QCF qualifications must be designed. These rules in combination with the design of the qualification, helped Learner Registration Bodies advise candidates what credits a learner must achieve to be considered to award for a qualification.

Routes to Achievement (RtA) – this functionality within the PLR enables learners and advisors to make a query to determine the different pathways in which a QCF qualification may be achieved.