

Notes of the Meeting of the **Construction Craft Qualifications Support Team** held at OPTIMA, Glasgow on Friday 26 February 2010 at 10 am



In attendance

Andy Pollock	Glasgow Metropolitan College
Donald MacIver	Glasgow Metropolitan College
Graeme Williamson	South Lanarkshire College
Ian Morrison	Forth Valley College
Jimmy Widdowson	Dumfries and Galloway College
Joe Govan	James Watt College
John Murray	Ayr College
Colin Johnson	Angus College (for Jim Garvie)
Ian Rodgers	SPADAC
Gillian O'Hare	SQA
Peter Aird	SQA
Peter Primrose	SQA

Apologies

Chris Meek	South Lanarkshire College
David Lowe	Borders College
Ewan Scott	Edinburgh's Telford College
Diane Anderson	SQA
Jim Garvie	Angus College
John Carr	Senior Verifier/SLC
John Laing	Edinburgh's Telford College
Kenny Martin	Glasgow Metropolitan College
Stephen Sheridan	ConstructionSkills
Kevin Sutherland	North Highland College
Mark Davidson	ConstructionSkills
No response	
Bob Scott	Dundee College
Gavin Hay	Queenslie Training Centre
Mark Russell	Glasgow Metropolitan College

Agenda Point	Notes	Action
Welcome and Introductions	DMacI was appointed acting chair of the meeting due to the apologies from JL. Members introduced themselves to the group. PP was introduced as the maternity cover for GO'H.	
Remit and Membership of the QST	As discussed at previous meeting, both apprenticeship councils were invited to attend the QST. IR represented SPADAC. No representation was in attendance for SBATC and ConstructionSkills were unable to attend due to weather conditions. Membership was expanded to give greater geographical spread, however North Highland College were unable to attend due to the weather conditions.	
SQA updates	All eight PDAs at SCQF level 7 (revised advanced craft) have been through validation. There are certain conditions to meet before being made available to centres. It is expected that the conditions will be met	

	<p>by 12 March 2010 and that numbers for PDAs and Units should be available by Easter. Unit specifications should be available to download from the SQA website shortly afterwards.</p> <p>The issue of approvals for the new PDAs was raised. Should auto approval be given or should centres have to seek approval? Some of the Units are from HNC Construction. Would a delivering centre need to seek approval for the individual Units or the whole HNC Construction as well as the PDA? This will be discussed with the Senior EVs and the wider EV teams. A final answer will be circulated when the codes become available.</p> <p>An update was given on the progress of the new TAPs at SCQF level 7 which will support the craft PDA 7s with the exception of Painting and Decorating. Work is under way on a pack similar to the existing TAPs but with any knowledge questions removed and assessed through SOLAR. An update was given on SOLAR, which is an electronic system of assessment that is freely available to all SQA centres. A demonstration will be arranged when there is some actual PDA 7 content to show the QST.</p> <p>The Painting and Decorating PDA 7 articulates to HNC Painting and Decorating Supervision. The HNC has also been revised and validated with conditions. It is expected that the conditions will be met by 12 March 2010 and that numbers for the HNC and new Units should be available by Easter. Because of its unique arrangement and articulation to its own HNC a TAP and SOLAR material will not be developed to support the PDA 7 in Painting and Decorating.</p> <p>Sustainability and new technology issues were discussed. There is a New and Sustainable Building Technologies Unit developed as part of the PDA 7 for Carpentry and Joinery. The QST were asked to monitor this with a view to possible inclusion of the Unit in other appropriate areas.</p> <p>It was noted that the lapsing period for SVQ level 3 has been increased from 3 years to 4 years. This will apply to all current SVQs.</p>	<p>SQA</p> <p>SQA</p>
Centre updates	<p>JG noted that the IT Core Skill has changed as part of the ConstructionSkills Modern Apprenticeship requirements. Despite being work-based, ConstructionSkills have confirmed that this is to be assessed in the centre. A NAB is available on the SQA Secure Website.</p> <p>TAP/PDA 6 mapping and assessment were discussed. The mapping in the PDA 6 Arrangements Document covers all practical tasks and tests in the TAP against the PDA Units. All relevant knowledge is covered in the holistic knowledge papers in the TAP. No new assessment should be generated to try</p>	

	<p>and support the PDA 6 as the TAP is your assessment material. If a candidate fails a particular part of the TAP knowledge but would previously have been considered competent enough to pass then nothing should change and they should still be regarded as passing.</p> <p>GO'H advised that the Access and Rigging in the TAPs is with publications and will soon be updated to an appreciation and risk assessment exercise. The knowledge questions will remain the same.</p> <p>Funding and milestone issues were also raised. SS at ConstructionSkills has been working on Carpentry and Joinery milestones with a number of EVs. Essentially ConstructionSkills are looking for achievement of 6 SVQ/PDA 6 Units by the end of first year and the complete PDA 6 by the end of second year</p> <p>JG asked if any other centres had experience problems with the assessors working towards A Units not being allowed to use only a Realistic Working Environment (ie the centre) to provide their evidence to their A Unit assessor. Apparently some are being asked to provide evidence of actual assessment in the workplace. This issue had been previously discussed with Senior EVs and the Senior EV for Learning and Development, David Pirnie, and PA believed there was finally an agreement that with certain conditions the RWE was acceptable. JG was advised at this stage to take it up as an internal quality issue as guidance had been provided by SQA EVs.</p>	
Comment/Feedback forms	The QST were encouraged to use and promote the comment/feedback form available on the construction website for any comments and/or feedback on any construction awards. This feedback will be considered by SQA officers, EVs and/or the QST as appropriate.	
AOCB	It was suggested that more quality networks which allow time to discuss issues and best practice with colleagues would be of benefit. It was also suggested that delegates may be quite happy to cover costs if necessary.	
Next Meeting	Friday 11 June 2010, 10 am (venue to be confirmed)	