

**College Principals
SQA Co-ordinators
Heads of Department (Information Technology)**

10 November 2005

Contact name: Angela Lees at Glasgow
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Dear Colleague,

**HNC INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
HND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

I am writing to inform you about a development relating to information technology.

A number of centres presently offer IT-related HN awards. As part of SQA's *HN Modernisation Programme*, a Qualification Design Team (QDT) was formed to update these awards and develop a single framework to encompass HNC Information Technology and HND Information Technology. The QDT is chaired by George Johnson of Reid Kerr College. June McCamlie, of South Lanarkshire College, is the lead developer.

This development is progressing well. I attach the current version of the qualification frameworks together with the proposed core skill profiles. A validation event has been arranged for 20 January 2006. The Validation Panel will be chaired by Ron Dillin of Stow College. **These new qualifications will be available to centres in May 2006.**

The QDT has carried out a great deal of consultation to support this development. An important part of this consultation was the formation of an online forum. The 'HNIT' online community currently consists of over 140 members. The home page for the group is:

<http://www.smartgroups.com/groups/hnit>

I would urge you to subscribe to this community if you are interested in this development. It will give you an early opportunity to see (and comment upon) frameworks, core skill profiles and unit specifications.

We will also produce a range of materials to support these awards once they have been validated.

I will write to you again after the validation event to inform you of the outcome of validation and to provide more precise dates re. the availability of these awards and publication of support materials. This letter will also provide details about a launch event for these new awards which will take place in June 2006.

In the meantime, **please contact Angela Lees** if you have any queries relating to this development. Angela can be contacted by telephone (0141-242-2209) or e-mail (angela.lees@sqa.org.uk).

Thank you for your continued support for SQA awards.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Elliott', written in a cursive style.

R Elliott
Qualifications Manager