

6 March 2012

**For the attention of all staff responsible for the delivery of
National Qualifications in Managing Environmental Resources**

Action by Recipient
Response required
✓ Note and pass on
Note — update/information only

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Dear Colleague

National Qualifications Update – Managing Environmental Resources

The contents of this letter should be passed to the member of staff responsible for Managing Environmental Resources.

The following items are included:

1. Internal Assessment Report
2. External Assessment Report
3. Guidance for Appeals Evidence

1 Internal Assessment Report

We are pleased to be able to direct centre staff to an Internal Assessment Report for Intermediate 1 and Intermediate 2, which has been published on the SQA website for the first time in recent years. The document can be accessed via the link http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files_ccc/NQ_MER_IAR2011.pdf

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on verification for National Qualifications in this subject, and it has sections for general comments, areas of good practice and areas for improvement.

2 External Assessment Report

External Assessment Reports for the examination diet 2011 are also available for Intermediate 1, Intermediate 2 and Higher Managing Environmental Resources.

These can be found on the SQA website, within the pages relating to individual levels for MER, in the centre column under the drop down External Assessment Reports.

Centre staff are advised to study these reports as they provide information on the performance of candidates which it is hoped will be useful to teachers/lecturers in their preparation of candidates for future examinations. Reports contain detailed information on areas where candidates performed well, areas which candidates found demanding, advice to centres for the preparation of future candidates and statistical information.

3 Guidance for Appeals Evidence

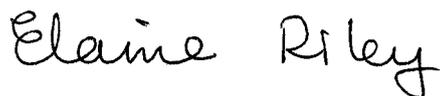
Centre staff should be aware of issues raised during the appeals process for Examination Diet 2011. Evidence must be robust, and if a prelim examination is to be used as evidence, it should reflect the final examination as far as possible, in terms of total number of marks awarded, time allocated and level of difficulty. Time allowed should be marked clearly on the paper. Centre staff are advised to consult the Estimates, Absentees and Assessment Appeals Guidance on Evidence Requirements Document, which can be downloaded from

http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files_ccc/EstimatesAbsentees_and_AssessmentAppealsMarch2011.pdf

for further advice.

I hope that all of the information above has been of help to you. If you have any enquiries about NQ Managing Environmental Resources, please do not hesitate to contact me via the details provided at the head of this letter.

Yours faithfully



Elaine Riley

Qualifications Manager