

Our ref: GF/MP/HE&HOSP

20 June 2006

To: SQA Co-ordinator  
Schools and FE colleges

Action by Recipient
Response required
✓ Note and pass on
None — update/information only

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Dear Colleague,

### **National Qualifications update — Construction**

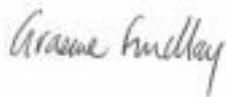
The contents of this update should be passed to members of staff responsible for NQ Construction Courses.

This update provides information and advice to centres in relation to National Qualifications in Construction at all levels. For further clarification on any matter covered in this update please do not hesitate to contact either:

- ◆ Roz Walker (e-mail: [rosslynn.walker@sqa.org.uk](mailto:rosslynn.walker@sqa.org.uk), or telephone: 0845 213 5489)
- ◆ or myself using the contact details provided above

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all an enjoyable and well deserved break.

Yours faithfully,



Graeme Findlay  
Qualifications Manager  
NQ Construction

## NQ Review

The overall outcome of the NQ Review of Construction was to develop two new Courses and withdraw all 11 existing Courses. As well as rationalising and consolidating Construction Courses, the review took account of the low uptake policy. The following Construction Courses are to be withdrawn in session 2006/07.

Construction	Code
Construction Craft Skills (PBNC)	C01M 11
Construction Industry Practice (PBNC)	C01N 11
Structures	C01R 12
Building and Architectural Technology	C021 12
Building Services	C023 12
Civil Engineering	C022 12
Construction	C019 12
Land Use (Built Environment)	C020 12
Quantity Surveying	C01P 12
Building and Architectural Technology	C021 13
Civil Engineering	C022 13

Although these Courses are being withdrawn, some of their Units will still be available to offer. Please refer to Appendix 1 for details.

The two new Higher Courses in Architectural Technology (C226 12) and Building Construction (C227 12) are available to offer from August 2006 and the Course Arrangements documents can be downloaded from SQA's website.

### Skills for Work — Construction Crafts

The Scottish Executive has been running a pilot in two phases for Skills for Work Courses. These new Courses allow candidates in S3 and above to experience a new kind of learning based on practical experiences. They develop employability skills whilst enjoying trade-specific vocational classes in a variety of construction trades:

- ◆ brickwork
- ◆ carpentry and joinery
- ◆ painting and decorating
- ◆ plumbing
- ◆ roof tiling
- ◆ electrical installation
- ◆ plasterwork

The Phase 1 Construction Crafts Course is at Intermediate 1 and was launched in May 2005. The Phase 2 Course, which was launched in April 2006, is at Intermediate 2 level. To date, nearly eight hundred candidates have enrolled in the Phase 1 Course.

Because of the specialist nature of the Course content, most of the candidates are receiving their training in colleges of further education. Many examples of effective school/college partnerships are emerging from the pilot.

We await eagerly the review of the pilot and are confident that the Skills for Work — Construction Crafts Courses will receive a positive report.

## **Moderators**

SQA is grateful to those who moderated in the 2006 diet. The consensus is that carrying out moderation is one of the best forms of in-service training there is, from the point of view of becoming familiar with national standards and improving one's teaching.

Invitations to moderate for the 2007 diet are now being dealt with. If you or a colleague is interested, please complete an application form which is available online.

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