

22 June 2005

To: SQA Co-ordinators

**For the attention of all staff responsible for the
delivery of ESOL**

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

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Dear Colleague

National Qualifications ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)

I am delighted to say that the NQ Units which SQA introduced and piloted from August 2003 have been widely used and will be supplemented by Courses at Intermediate 2 and Higher levels.

Work has begun on these and after a launch of Course Arrangements and Specimen Question Papers in May 2006, the two Courses should be available to begin from August 2006, with first certification in August 2007.

The new qualifications will require many ESOL teachers/lecturers to take up new roles. Both Intermediate 2 and Higher will have an external question paper, which will benefit from your consultation suggestions.

There is a need for subject specialists to do various tasks. There will have to be examination teams headed by a Principal Assessor to run the procedures connected with the examinations. There is a need for setters to set papers and vettors to ensure the quality of the Course arrangements, question papers and NABs. These would be continuing appointments probably requiring release from your centre.

A short term need is the formation of a subject advisory group to provide detailed consultation on documents as they progress. This group would meet three or four times a year.

If you are interested in any of the above, or want to offer suggestions about the kind of courses you would like to see developed, please contact Marjory Fyfe by e-mail or in writing at the contact details below, enclosing your CV. Experience of NQ presentation in another subject would be of particular interest, as would experience of ESOL assessment.

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This is an exciting development for ESOL and an opportunity for many of you who are not already involved, other than as deliverers, to play a part in the further development of the subject.

I look forward to hearing from as many of you as possible.

Yours faithfully



Alan R Wilson
Qualifications Manager