

Notes of the Meeting of the **Construction Craft Qualifications Support Team** held at OPTIMA, Glasgow on Friday 20 November 2009 at 10 am



In attendance

Andy Pollock Glasgow Metropolitan College
 Chris Meek South Lanarkshire College
 David Lowe Borders College
 David Smith SBATC
 Diane Anderson SQA
 Donald MacIver Glasgow Metropolitan College
 Gillian O'Hare SQA
 Graeme Williamson South Lanarkshire College
 Ian Morrison Forth Valley College
 Jim Garvie Angus College
 Joe Govan James Watt College
 John Carr Senior Verifier/SLC
 John Laing Edinburgh's Telford College
 John Murray Ayr College
 Kenny Martin Glasgow Metropolitan College
 Mark Russell Glasgow Metropolitan College

Apologies

Bob Scott Dundee College
 Ewan Scott Edinburgh's Telford College
 Gavin Hay Queenslie Training Centre
 Jimmy Widdowson Dumfries and Galloway College
 Stephen Sheridan ConstructionSkills

Agenda point	Notes	Action
Welcome and introductions	GOH welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Construction Craft Qualifications Support Team and apologies were given. DS was in attendance as depute for GH and it was highlighted to the group that although from SBATC DS would be representing Queenslie Training Centre. Members introduced themselves to the group.	
Remit and membership of the QST	Members were provided with a remit for the QST, membership details and qualification list. JL asked if it would be suitable for SBATC to become a member on the group. GOH highlighted that QSTs are practitioner based and that if we invited SBATC we will also have to invite a member from SPADAC as the other apprenticeship council. The group agreed to this. GOH will invite both apprenticeship councils onto the QST. It was noted that from March 2010 Gavin Hay will become the	GOH

	<p>Chair of SBATC.</p> <p>As it stands the membership is very much represented by the central belt and south, including Borders and Dumfries and Galloway. We are required to have a geographical spread and therefore will need to approach members from the north. GOH to contact Angus Macleod from Inverness for a suggestion on who to approach.</p> <p>The possibility of having four regional representatives was suggested. We will look into this when the membership is finalised for the next meeting.</p> <p>QST will look at issues raised from any EV reports, comment forms. Provide a steer on award and assessment developments, if required. EV cognate groups will be updated in any relevant issues arising from the QST and EVs will be invited to attend the QST as and when required. QST sub-group will be arranged if required and will be arranged by subject/craft.</p> <p>JG asked if there was any international uptake for these awards. DA informed the group that there was none and any international work would be dealt with by SQA international team. SQA international refers to Centres abroad as well as VQs in England, the English marker and Awards UK Centres</p> <p>The QST will be a quarterly meeting with an annual rotation of chair and members. For this session JL volunteered to be chair and the group agreed to this. SQA rep will take note, complete minutes and circulate them to the group.</p>	GOH
Centre updates	<p>IM requested an update on the PDA 7 developments. Finalised frameworks should be available next week. This brought up the issue of the inclusion of the two HN Units in the mandatory section of the frameworks. It was explained to the group that this was being considered in the revised frameworks and when agreement is reached the final frameworks would be available.</p> <p>The integration of the two HN Units was to narrow the jump in assessment approached from the PDA to HN awards. Some feel that this is not necessary as apprentices may not wish to advance to an HN, however it was highlighted that if it was removed from the framework then we are disadvantaging those who do wish to advance onto HN. It has been a difficult development to find a 'happy medium' in these frameworks and a compromise will have to be reached and agreed.</p> <p>JG raised the question of Craft specific HN awards. Although this would be a useful and probably quite</p>	

	<p>a popular articulation route it is not currently in SQA's operational plan. New methods within SQA are in place and business cases have to be made for any future developments.</p> <p>IM/JL brought up information from a meeting held yesterday regarding work based degrees. This is a University partnership which is being lead by Napier University which is looking at the recognition of VQs by Universities.</p>	
Comment/feedback forms	There is a new 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. GOH encouraged the use of this form and asked the group to inform their centre colleagues that this is available.	
Construction website	A new construction webpage has been created which contains direct links to all the construction awards offered by SQA. This website will contain updates, news, FAQs, feedback, QST actions/minutes and any other information required to be circulated to centres. The address is www.sqa.org.uk/construction GOH encouraged the use of this website and asked the group to inform their centre colleagues that this is available.	
AOCB	The group asked that a representative from SOLAR be invited along to the next meeting for an update on what is available and future developments. GOH will invite SOLAR to the next meeting	GOH
Next meeting	Friday 26 February 2010, 10 am (venue to be confirmed) Friday 4 June 2010, 10 am (venue to be confirmed)	