

A Construction Higher Apprenticeship

AND

The Development of Foundation Degrees to Support the Delivery of the Higher Apprenticeship Framework

Project Summary and Terms of Reference

The development of a Construction Higher Level Apprenticeship Framework to include Foundation Degrees as part or all of the Technical/Competence Qualification required by the Specification of Apprenticeship Standards for England (SASE).

- To advise on the development of a Higher Apprenticeship framework for the construction sector which meets the requirements of the SASE and includes Foundation degrees as all or part of the Technical/Competence qualification as specified by SASE
- To suggest new HE/FE validation and delivery partnerships which will deliver the best value for money for employers, apprentices and the delivery partners.

In respect of Foundation degrees

1. To advise on the development and implementation of an open, transparent and optimum process and timetable to ensure that Foundation degrees and modules to deliver the skills and knowledge specified in the Higher Apprenticeship framework are validated by HE and FE partnerships by July 2011 and are in place for delivery by September 2011
2. To advise on the establishment of HE/FE working groups to support the development of Foundation degrees
3. To advise on action needed to ensure industry and professional body support for the Foundation degrees developed and validated and that Foundation degrees appropriately recognise competence and link to the construction industry card schemes including CSCS (Construction Skills Certification Scheme) and professional accreditation
4. To offer advice on the content, development and delivery of the Construction Industry Higher Apprenticeship vis-à-vis the development and validation of Foundation degrees
5. To advise on how Foundation degrees are developed and validated to complement existing qualification provision and progression routes
6. To advise on the appropriateness and development of an 'approval mark' for Foundation degrees deemed suitable for inclusion in the Higher Apprenticeship
7. To review HE/FE partnership expressions of interest in developing and validating appropriate foundation degrees and thereafter work plans, materials, targets etc.

8. To advise on approaches to AP(E)L , credit, use of National Occupational Standards, flexible delivery and national availability of Foundation degrees to support the delivery of the Higher Apprenticeship
9. To advise on approaches to IAG, progression for level 3 Apprentices and related advice on progression for older employees and widening participation and inclusion
10. To advise on any other matters that will impact on the successful development, validation and delivery of Foundation degrees to deliver the construction Higher Apprenticeship