

Sent via email



28 July 2022

Dear Responsible Officer,

Designation of existing qualifications in construction and building services engineering for specific purposes from 1 August 2022

You may be aware that on 1 August 2022, the remaining qualifications in a new suite of vocational qualifications in construction and building services engineering, which have been developed for learners in Wales, will be available. These approved qualifications will also form part of new apprenticeship frameworks in Wales from this date. A range of qualifications for learners in full-time further education are also available. The full range of qualifications, and pathways within them, can be found on the ['Qualifications' page of the Skills for Wales website](#).

From 1 August 2022, we will no longer designate existing qualifications, in construction and building services engineering trade areas where there is provision within the new suite, for use in full-time further education or work-based learning for learners up to 19.

However, in accordance with subsection 30(6) of the Qualifications Wales Act, we have the power to designate qualifications for specific purposes, including by reference to the learners to whom the qualification is aimed. We can also specify that a qualification is not designated for one or more specific purposes. For example, we might specify that a qualification is not designated for use in maintained schools, but is designated for all other purposes.

Therefore, existing qualifications, where required by centres, may be designated for a limited range of specific purposes. Such purposes may include:

- Use on part-time programmes of study at a further education institution
- Use on an 'NVQs in the workplace' programme
- Use as part of a programme aimed at adult learners.

Qualifications Wales

Q2 Building, Pencarn Lane
Imperial Park,
Newport
NP10 8AR
☎ 01633 373 222



Cymwysterau Cymru

Adeilad Q2, Lôn Pencarn
Parc Imperial,
Casnewydd
NP10 8AR
☎ 01633 373 222

In addition, NVQ qualifications may be designated so that individual pathways which are not covered by the new suite of qualifications can be offered. For example, a level 2 NVQ in plastering may be designated for a fibrous pathway but not for a solid plastering pathway (as this is a trade area covered by the new suite of qualifications).

The specific purpose for which a qualification is designated will be stated on QiW. The Typical Designation/Approval Final Start Date and Designation/Approval Certification End Date relevant to that specific purpose will appear next to it.

Where awarding bodies request designation of existing qualifications for such purposes, from 1 August 2022 we will require them to populate the 'Specific purpose' field on QiW with a description of the specific purpose(s). This could be the name of the NVQ pathway(s) (which must not be covered by the new suite of qualifications) or a particular learner type, for example. End dates for the designation of the specific purpose should also be populated before submitting the request through QiW.

Revised guidance and a letter regarding the changes to QiW to facilitate the addition of specific purposes will be sent to awarding bodies shortly by the Approval and Designation Team.

If you have any questions about our approach to designation of construction and building services engineering qualifications from 1 August 2022, please do not hesitate to get in touch at dean.seabrook@qualificationswales.org.

Yours sincerely,



Dean Seabrook,

Qualifications Policy and Reform.