

Project Name: HE Vocational Progression – Animal Welfare & Management

Amendment History:

Version No.	Date	Reason for Amendment
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Name of Project Manager & Contact Details	Angela North Persnore College, Avonbank, Persnore, Worcestershire WR10 3JP
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Document Distribution

<i>Name</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>Action/Information</i>
Debbie Lambert	LLN	Manager of the LLN	For information
Geoffrey Elliott	UW	Members of the Steering Group	To approve the proposal
Chris Morecroft	WCT		
Ian Peake	HCT		
Mike Rookes	OU		
Gail Rothnie	UoB		
Donna Obrey	LLN	Project Officer for the LLN	To track and monitor project

Background

Following the recent decision of the University of Worcester to cease delivery of animal related qualifications, Persnore College would like to commit to the development of alternative provision in order to provide accessible and affordable higher educational provision for those in the region to access full and part time routes to higher educational qualifications.

The Animal Welfare programme Area at the Persnore Centre continues to grow and develop with over 200 full time learners across a range of levels studying animal welfare and progressing through levels of study to higher education and employment in the sector. The animal and allied industries is a diverse sector, with a multimillion pound turnover. Continual awareness raising by the media promotes the importance of well educated trained professionals to raise standards within the industry.

The existing provision as validated by the University of Worcester has been maintained as viable for a considerable number of years. As a route of progress for both full time and employed students from level 3 into level 4, in addition to direct entrants, a Foundation Degree is proposed for development to replace the HND as it expires. With animal welfare forming the basis for delivery with work related Units that promote and support work based learning, industry expectations across a broad section of the industry and competence in a range of necessary skills.

The LLN bid will support the market research and employer engagement along with the development of the qualification to continue to provide provision of the highest quality to

local students and their current and future employers leading to raised standards of animal welfare and customer care in the allied animal industries.

Objectives of the Project

To complete market research into current student perspective of modules, delivery, suitability and areas for development

To undertake a survey of employers to generate an understanding of their support for the new proposal and the contents they feel should be included

Design and develop new provision to meet local and regional employer requirements and meet needs and expectations of future learners

Map provision against benchmark statements and NOS at Level 4

Map provision against employability statements

Gain employer support for voluntary work placements and investigate support for post level 4 Apprenticeship programmes.

Project Approach

This project will involve linking with employers to confirm their support for the joint development of a Work Based Learning FdSc in Animal Welfare and Management.

Scope:

A Key Products from the project

Research undertaken to confirm that the development is right for both employers and students in the locality and region.

To confirm the support of the University of Worcester / Coventry University / Warwickshire College in the development of this qualification.

Modules that meet work based learning elements of Foundation degrees

B Out of Scope

Constraints

The funding will be used to release staff to undertake this work to ensure project is undertaken within the agreed timescales. In addition to promote employer support through provision of travel expenses, subsistence and raising awareness.

Initial Project Case

Please see above

Benefits of the Project:

Provision of local progression routes for local students to support local employers and raise standards within the allied industry in the local area.

The project will develop a team of employers to work with the college on the development of animal related qualifications.

There will be a Foundation Degree available for learners when the current HND / HNC validation expires following the September 2011 entry.

A qualification which will improve the employability of the graduates.

Key Assumptions

Student, employer and HEI support

Timescale

Completion by 31.12.2010

Costs

Staff hours- 60 hours at £50/hour = £3000

Administrative support- 60 hours at £15/hour = £900

Postage, paper etc £100

Employer meetings, visits, mileage payments and promotional activity £1000

Total £5000

How will the project be evaluated?

The project will be evaluated by the project team to confirm that the FdSc Animal Welfare route of study is appropriate for learners and employers in Worcestershire and surrounding counties.

Ultimately it will be judged by a successful validation of the programme.

How will the project be sustained?

By developing the research and initial development into a fully validated FdSc in Animal Welfare which will be annually reviewed.

Implications for Equality & Diversity

This will make the route of study and relevance of study more appropriate to those students who are wholly in the workplace whilst increasing the employability of students who join the programme from previous academic studies.

Initial Risk Log

The following table summarises the risks that have been identified that may prevent the project being completed to the required quality, budget and timescale. The probability and impact of each risk has been graded as low, medium or high to indicate the relative importance attached to each element of risk.

Risks	Probability	Impact	Containment Plan
Employers not supporting the development	Low	High	Employers value current HE AW&M studies in Worcestershire and it is expected that they will continue to do so.
Staffing changes	Low	Low	Hours allocated immediately the project is awarded.

Project Team

A North
N Johnson
A Walker
D Nichols
N Yare