

Project Name: HE Vocational Progression - Horticulture

Amendment History:

Version No.	Date	Reason for Amendment
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Name of Project Manager & Contact Details

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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

Through the 'Growing Learning LLN Project' Level 3 horticulture learning materials have been developed that enable learners to study at level 3 through a blended learning approach using e-materials and interactive learning strategies together with practical workshops and tutor support.

Objectives of the Project

To build on the good practice of the Level 3 project to develop learning packages at Level 4 to bridge the gap between RHS level 3 qualifications and the 'Masters in Horticulture' which is a level 5/6 qualification. These qualifications are ideally suited to people who are studying whilst working.

Project Approach

The project will be undertaken by experienced practitioners both in horticulture and blended learning and provide good progression for students in horticulture moving into higher level studies.

Scope:

A Key Products from the project

A Level 4 qualification in Horticulture to give a progression route from Level 3 horticulture into Masters in Horticulture (An industry awarded qualification) level of study – levels 5&6.

B Out of Scope

Constraints

Staff hours will be allocated to complete the project in a timely way.

Initial Project Case

Please see above

Benefits of the Project

Improved progression routes for students
More varied ways to study beyond Level 3
Improved opportunities for employed learners to study

Key Assumptions

Student and employer support for this development
Blended learning will work well at Level 4
Improved skills and knowledge within the horticulture industry
The RHS Education Committee support this activity

Timescale

To complete the project in outline and to have some modules complete by December 2010

Costs

Staff hours 100 @£50/ hour = £5000

How will the project be evaluated?

Full set of modules identified by December 2010
Level 4 modules increasingly available to learners from January 2011

How will the project be sustained?

Regular review of modules and the success rate and progression of students. Changes made to the modules relating to the feedback received and changes to RHS syllabi.

Implications for Equality & Diversity

This development will enable a wider range of students to study at Level 4 and open up the opportunities to study whilst in the workplace and / nationwide / internationally.

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
Failure to produce units of study	Low	High	Member of staff identified to deliver the project if approved
Staff changes	Low	Low	Hours will be allocated on receipt of project approval

Project Team

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J Prescott
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