



## **Creative & Cultural Skills**

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## **Summary**

In partnership with Creative & Cultural Skills, Agored Cymru, *the* awarding body of choice for education and training providers in Wales, has developed the first of their kind higher level qualifications for the Craft, Design and Cultural Heritage sectors in Wales.

The qualifications target ambitious and talented learners in Wales who cannot readily access a more traditional route to higher education or afford to take unpaid internships. They cover the skills needed to pursue a career in various roles such as Collections Officer, Heritage Worker, Design Assistant, Junior Designer and Designer-Maker.

The qualifications have been developed through consultation with expert individuals and organisations from across the three sectors; Craft, Design and Cultural Heritage.

Partnering with these specialists has ensured that the qualifications encompass the identified skills gaps and the evolving needs of employers in Wales in each sector.

## **Background**

Funded by the Welsh Government's Sector Priorities Fund Pilot (SPFP) project, Creative & Cultural Skills researched and identified the skills gaps in the creative industries in Wales.

This research found a need to create qualifications which would ensure that learners in Wales:

- ✓ have an alternative entry point into the creative industries in Wales;
- ✓ have opportunities for career development;
- ✓ are more 'work ready' with relevant skills for the specific sector; and
- ✓ are accredited for their achievements.

In December 2013, Agored Cymru won the tender to develop a suite of qualifications for the Craft, Design and Cultural Heritage sectors to recognise these priorities.

To support development of the qualifications, Agored Cymru consulted with over 50 leading Craft, Design and Cultural Heritage organisations in Wales.

Initial consultation for each sector focussed on: tailored learning needs; training requirements; identification of gaps in accreditation; and the need to align the unit contents specifically for Wales.

Building on this feedback, Agored Cymru developed a suite of higher level 4 and 5 qualifications designed for direct incorporation within higher level apprenticeship frameworks.

### **The qualifications**

The suite of qualifications are the first-of- their-kind. They are intended to complement the higher education provision for levels 4 to 6 in Wales and promote vocational learning.

All the qualifications are available in Welsh.

### **Craft**

- ✓ Level 4 Award in Professionalising Craft Practice (QCF)
- ✓ Level 4 Certificate in Professionalising Craft Practice (QCF)
- ✓ Level 5 Certificate in Professional Craft Practice (QCF)

### **Design**

- ✓ Level 4 Award in Principles of Digital Design (QCF)
- ✓ Level 4 Award in Principles of Graphic Design (QCF)
- ✓ Level 4 Award in Principles of Product Design (QCF)
- ✓ Level 4 Award in Working Practices in Design (QCF)
- ✓ Level 5 Certificate in Working Practices in Design (QCF)

### **Cultural Heritage**

- ✓ Level 5 Certificate in Professional Collections Management (QCF)
- ✓ Level 4 Award in Cultural Heritage Management (QCF)
- ✓ Level 4 Certificate in Cultural Heritage Management (QCF)
- ✓ Level 4 Extended Certificate in Cultural Heritage Management (QCF)

### **The impact on learners**

Creative & Cultural Skills anticipates the take up in the first year for each sector to be approximately 30, around a third of which will be amongst the first apprentices on higher level frameworks in creative and cultural in the UK.

Pauline Tambling CBE, Chief Executive, Creative & Cultural Skills, said:

*“These new apprenticeship frameworks are part of our wider commitment to ensuring that young people have more opportunities to enter the creative industries via vocational pathways.*

*“Through our Building a Creative Nation campaign we are calling on employers across the UK to invest in future talent by creating apprenticeship and paid internship places within their creative businesses, and our hope is that these new frameworks will make that possible for more employers in Wales.”*