



01/11/2018

Dear Responsible Officer,

**RE: DEVELOPMENT OF NEW GCSE AND GCE A LEVEL BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

You may be aware that we published our review of qualifications in the construction and built environment sector, *Building the Future*, in February of this year. Having consulted on our proposals, we are now proceeding with:

- i) commissioning, through a process of open competitive tender, the development of new qualifications for use in further education and on apprenticeships;
- ii) developing approval criteria for a GCSE in Built Environment (for first teaching from 2021) and a GCE AS/A level in Built Environment (for first teaching from 2022).

At this stage, we are seeking expressions of interest from awarding bodies that would consider developing a GCSE and GCE AS/A level in Built Environment to meet these criteria.

We will work with interested awarding bodies throughout the development of the approval criteria documents on the minimum requirements for each qualification.

Awarding body involvement at this early stage of the work is not a pre-requisite for seeking approval of a proposed qualification. Once we have published the final approval criteria, any suitably recognised awarding body will be able to submit draft qualifications for approval. In our experience, however, close working with awarding bodies from the outset leads to clearer requirements and a smoother approvals process.

Please note that as these will be approved qualifications, awarding bodies will need to ensure that they are available in both English and Welsh.



If you would like to express an interest, please reply to this letter, or email us at [constructionreview@qualificationswales.org](mailto:constructionreview@qualificationswales.org), by Friday November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018.

To help explain the approach we are taking, we will publish this letter on our website.

Yours faithfully,

The Development and Commissioning Team.