Dear Mr Lynch,

Qualifications Approval

Please accept this letter as confirmation that Mott MacDonald is happy to support The Learning Machine's submission to Ofqual of the following QCF qualifications within the Construction sector area:

TLM Level 1 Certificate in Designing, Engineering and Constructing a Sustainable Built Environment
TLM Level 2 Certificate in Designing, Engineering and Constructing a Sustainable Built Environment
TLM Level 3 Award in Designing, Engineering and Constructing a Sustainable Built Environment
TLM Level 3 Certificate in Designing, Engineering and Constructing a Sustainable Built Environment
TLM Level 3 Diploma in Designing, Engineering and Constructing a Sustainable Built Environment

The qualifications are suitable for the following age ranges:

Level 1 and Level 2 for 14-16, 16-18 and 19+. Level 3 for 16-18 and 19+.

These qualifications are of a general vocational/technical nature preparing students with a broad grounding in the skills and knowledge needed to underpin specialist professional study in the wider construction industry. As major employers we judge these qualifications to provide the basic generic employment skills that we need as well as reinforcing technical skills and applied knowledge related to the sector.

The learning within Design Engineer Construct! encompasses all technical and professional aspects of the industry and has been developed to ensure rigour and breadth. The qualification, at all levels, gives a comprehensive understanding of the principles and the skills essential for a wide range of progression opportunities, including skilled/technical apprenticeships and further/higher education.
We also think that the qualifications embody the essential characteristics required for learning about the design process and project management accepted as good learning practice in schools in Key Stage 4 and 5.

For too long, the construction industry has been branded as a sector offering limited scope for academic or vocational progression. Most children, and many of their teachers, are barely aware that construction professionals - architects, engineers, planners, project managers, surveyors, etc. - exist. And certainly have little idea of what they do.

The construction industry is now desperately in need of a new generation of creative thinkers, educated and able to take on the complex challenges of a built environment driven by the needs of a low carbon future and a sustainable planet. If we are to compete on a global scale in a rapidly urbanising world, we need to develop a new generation of professionals who will uphold our reputation for world-class innovation.

The technological advances in built environment processes have opened up an unprecedented opportunity for young learners. The Design Engineer Construct! curriculum provides much needed insight to the range of careers in construction so often ignored or undiscovered, and instils excitement and enthusiasm in teachers and students alike. As an employer of some of the world’s most respected engineers and construction professionals, Mott MacDonald is proud to support it. Parents can be confident that their children are studying an industry backed programme which can provide a valuable route to a professional career, and the chance to make their own contribution to the sustainability agenda.

Yours sincerely,

Keith Howells
Chairman

cc  Alison Watson, Class of Your Own