

SCOTTISH ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CREDIT AND ACCESS

13-02-07  
Item 3  
Paper 42-04

**Supporting the development and recognition of Work Based Learning**

- 1 This paper provides SACCA an update on the work being conducted to support work-based learning.
- 2 As reported at the last meeting a small group (Scottish Bachelors Degree Steering Group) has been established to take forward the work on the 'work-based/related' Scottish Bachelors degree. It was also reported that a number of other developments and activities both within the HE sector and outwith HE, for example, the Scottish Social Services Council were also focusing on ways in which to recognize work-based learning. This growing interest in the recognition of work-based learning provided an opportunity for the SACCA work to link with these developments with a view to widening the scope of work on the Bachelors Degree to support the HE sector in the recognition of work-based learning in general.
- 3 When the Steering Group meet in October 2006 it agreed a programme of work, which included:
  - General work to identify, publish and promote the features, principles and processes for the recognition of work-based learning
  - Work to describe and promote the work-based/related qualifications (but focusing on the Bachelors degree). This work would
    - a. develop models and good practice in work-based higher education qualifications
    - b. include a statement of the characteristic features of programmes developed in in partnership with employers
    - c. encapsulate the nature of the type of outcomes developed through such programmes.
  - Work to promote and raise awareness amongst employer of the range of work-based learning opportunities provide by HEIs
- 4 The Group also felt that that the programme of work should explore the potential to link with and undertake joint work with developments in the Early Years and Social Care sectors, both of which are looking to develop their workforces using workbased learning qualifications.
- 5 In addition, the Group agreed that an initial identification and analysis of employer needs and perspectives in employment sectors should be undertaken, where there is a potential market for work-based Bachelors.
- 6 A consultant will be engaged to carry out the first phase of work that is, to produce with the Group, the work described in the second bullet point under paragraph 3. A contract is in the process of being drawn up.