

Roberta Podavitte
Portfolio manager/portfolio management and development
City & Guilds
1, Giltspur St
London
EC1A 9DD

20 August 2014

Dear Roberta

Letter of recognition for the City & Guilds Pharmacy Service Skills and Pharmaceutical Science qualifications

The General Pharmaceutical Council is the regulator for pharmacy in Great Britain. Part of our role is to set standards of education and training for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians and hold a register for pharmacy professionals and registered pharmacies. As the regulatory body for pharmacy professionals in the sector, we recognise the following qualifications as being fit for purpose:

The General Pharmaceutical Council support the inclusion of

- **500/9575/4 City & Guilds Level 2 Certificate in Pharmaceutical Science**
- **500/9234/0 City & Guilds Level 2 NVQ (QCF) Certificate in Pharmacy Service Skills**
- **500/9959/0 City & Guilds Level 3 Diploma in Pharmaceutical Science**
- **500/9576/6 City & Guilds Level 3 NVQ (QCF) Diploma in Pharmacy Service Skills**

for the DfE performance tables.

The Level 2 qualifications provide the right level of competence, meeting the needs of patients and the public, the business and the individual in the roles of Pharmacy Assistant and Dispensing Assistant and meets the policy on minimum training requirements for pharmacy and medicines counter assistants.

The Level 3 qualifications provide the right level of competence, meeting the needs of patients and the public and the individual in the role of Pharmacy Technician and they meet the GPhC standards for initial education and training for pharmacy technicians.

As a regulatory body, we also recognise these qualifications as the only qualifications that permit eligibility to the register of pharmacy technicians with the General Pharmaceutical Council and is essentially a license to practise as a pharmacy technician. Under our legislation, the *Pharmacy Order 2010*, Pharmacy technician is a protected title.

For the sector, the qualifications are valued and seen as essential to ensure employees in this role are appropriately skilled for the job and able to deliver to the standard that industry and patients and the public expects from a pharmacy healthcare professional.

The qualifications will also support the individual, should they choose to progress in to further training, to assist them with their own development and progression in the workplace, into roles such as a medicines management pharmacy technician or an accuracy checking pharmacy technician.

We confirm that we consent to the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) name being made publicly available on the DfE and City & Guilds websites

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joanne Martin', written in a cursive style.

*Ms Joanne Martin MRPharmS PGCE
Quality Assurance Manager (Education) for the General Pharmaceutical Council*