

14th August 2015

Susie Brennan  
Portfolio Manager  
1 Giltspur St  
London  
EC1A 9DD

Dear Susie

It is my pleasure to write to you as Director General and Chief Executive of the Agricultural Engineers Association (AEA).

The AEA represents the UK's agricultural and outdoor power equipment industry and has an annual turnover of some £4 billion. The industry leads in innovation and design. We provide the farming, local authority, golf, amenity and consumer sectors with the latest technology in land based engineering.

It is an exciting sector where the same application drivers as are found in aerospace, defence and motor sports are seen to dominate: mobile diagnostics, remote sensing, big data, robotics, autonomous systems and precision applications. There is plenty of opportunity for an exciting career.

We would like to offer our support for the City & Guilds Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Land-based Engineering (1080)

It offers the opportunity for learners aged 16 to 19 to take a two year full-time college course to learn a wide range of skills. These are included in the qualification and cover health and safety, repairing land based electrical and hydraulic systems, repairing and servicing a range of transmission systems, and understanding and maintaining cultivation, drilling and harvesting machinery.

On successful completion, it would provide the necessary skills to enter the industry as a Land-based Service Engineer.

It is essential that the part that agriculture and land-based engineering has to play in a long term growth strategy for the UK economy is recognized in terms of both production and jobs. Having suitably trained and competent youngsters finding vocational jobs within the sector such as a Land-based Service Engineer is vital for the country and in the wider context of a global society with a sustainable planet.

We consent to our letter being made publicly available on the City & Guilds website.

Yours sincerely,



Chief Executive Officer and Director General  
Agricultural Engineers Association