Recognition of Prior Learning Guidance

We have conducted a detailed mapping of the RCVS Level 2 NVQ in Veterinary Nursing to identify opportunities for recognition of prior learning (RPL) against the Level 3 Diploma in Veterinary Nursing.

We have found that the level 2 NVQ units do not map sufficiently to the level 3 Framework units to allow prior achievement to be recognised. However, learners who have achieved the Level 2 NVQ, may be able to APL some their training against the level 3 Diploma but they would be required to complete all of the assessments and complete the NPL log to achieve the qualification.

In summary, the mapping shows the following:
- Level 2 NVQ units do not have the same depth of knowledge and skills required by the Level 3 Framework units
- The level 2 NVQ units do not have the same indicative knowledge requirements as the level 3 Framework units (for example at level 2 the learners is expected to identify, state whereas at level 3 the learner is expected to explain, describe, compare)
- The level 3 Framework core units require the learner to be assessed for cat, dog, horse and an exotic whereas the at level 2 the learner has a choice, and is not expected to cover all four contexts
- The level 2 NVQ allows simulation, whereas the level 3 qualification does not (the assessment criteria are assessed by NPL)
- Some of the units in the Level 2 NVQ are not veterinary specific whereas all of the Level 3 Framework units are veterinary nursing specific
  - Not all of the assessment criteria in the Level 3 Diploma can be mapped from the Level 2 NVQ.