

Moor Farm, Horsham Road, Petworth West Sussex. GU28 0HD

Susie Brennan Portfolio Manager 1 Giltspur St London EC1A 9DD

24 August 2015

## Dear Susie

VS Fisheries Ltd was initially founded in 2006 and has now grown into one of the largest, and industry leading, producers of carp for the UK restocking market in 2015. We supply top quality carp to fisheries across the UK and are also receiving requests for fish to be supplied into mainland Europe. Founders, Viv Shears and Simon Scott, have over 45 years of experience in the industry and this includes running the largest portfolio of fisheries in the UK along with extensive consultancy work across Europe alongside the development of the current business. In addition to this both, Viv and Simon, have lectured at Sparsholt College for a combined total of 30 years and have a passion for training learners that are not only highly knowledgeable about the industry but also have the essential practical skills that the industry requires and that will allow them to succeed within the fisheries sector. We currently employ staff that have obtained Level 3 qualifications in Fisheries and have found them to be well prepared for the industry and our business.

We would like to support the following City and Guilds qualification:

## City and Guilds Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Land & Wildlife Management (Fisheries) (1080)

For the Fisheries pathway, we support the following skills and knowledge being provided by:

- Working safely in the fisheries industry
- Work placement in a fisheries business
- Prepare and operate land-based machinery
- Estate skills to construct, maintain and repair structures and surfaces
- Water quality
- Fish biology
- Fish health

The inclusion of optional units in fish farming (Cyprinid), fishery management and Stillwater fishery management ensure that potential employees in our business would have the appropriate level of understanding and practical skills that we require and feel are essential for anyone wishing to enter in to this section of the fisheries industry.

A young person with the above practical skills and knowledge could be at an advantage in applying roles within the industry such as:

- Fish farm worker
- Fishery consultancy assistant
- Fishery manager
- Fishery bailiff.

In our experience graduates with a combination of theoretical knowledge and practical skills are very well suited to employment within our industry and progress well within businesses to positions such as managers and consultants. The provision of a Level 3 qualification ideally suits those that wish to study a fish related route within the further education field rather than a more traditional A Level pathway.

We support the development of this City and Guilds Technical qualification and feel that it is fit for purpose across the Land & Wildlife industries.

We confirm that we consent to our company name and logo being made publicly available on the City & Guilds website.

Yours sincerely

Mr Viv Shears Director VS Fisheries Ltd

Producers of Quality English Carp for UK specimen carp fisheries

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