Dear Mr Jackson,

We wish to provide our support as an employer within the conservation and habitat management industry. The National Trust as a large landowner and conservation charity have enjoyed a long standing relationship with your education establishment and have been grateful for the training provided to students of which many now enjoy careers within our organisation. Our local properties within Hampshire and the New Forest for which I am responsible, have for many years developed strong partnership relationships with your college and continue to do so. The experience and knowledge that your students bring to the sector is ever more valuable both in terms of the benefit the education brings through industrial experience, surveying and practical skills development as well as via quality candidates for vacant roles post education. With increasing research, development and understanding of the ever more threatened countryside and rural industry sector our environment requires strong, knowledgeable and up to date skilled professionals. Our countryside workforce requires specialist training to enable confident and capable staff to be able to work professionally in a very specialist sector. In this regard we support the City & Guilds Level 2 Technical Certificate in Land & Wildlife, which includes a conservation pathway. We believe it is suitable for someone aged 16 years or over and would be viewed by employers as providing a good foundation for someone progressing into the land and wildlife management sector.

The skills and knowledge in the qualification include:

- Health and safety and safe working practices
- Working in the land and wildlife industry
- Species identification and surveying
- Environmental conservation of flora and fauna
- Land and countryside use
- Countryside interpretation and recreation
- Work experience (150 hours)

We believe that these would give a young person an advantage when seeking employment for a job as a:

- assistant conservation worker
- assistant recreation ranger
- assistant maintenance operative.
In addition, to those skills and knowledge specifically associated with the conservation industry, the qualification would also be suitable for someone to progress to further learning and training, or to an apprenticeship.

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

Yours sincerely,

Dylan Everett
Countryside Manager
Mottisfont, New Forest and South West Hampshire.