

Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership
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Your ref:

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Dear Robin

City & Guilds Level 2 Technical Certificate in Land & Wildlife

The Shropshire Hills is one of 46 Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty in the UK and alongside the other AONBs, represents designated protected areas covering just under 1/5th of the UK. AONBs offer a wealth of opportunities for both people and wildlife to benefit from our countryside. And as vibrant, living landscapes, they underpin the economy and the health and wellbeing of our society – www.LandscapesForLife.org.uk. The Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership is hosted by Shropshire Council and funded also by Defra, Telford & Wrekin Council and project funders. At Shropshire Hills AONB, we offer a range of employment across the landscape and wildlife sector and through our work, particularly our current Stiperstones & Corndon Hill Country Landscape Partnership Scheme, are actively championing traineeships and accredited learning for young people.

We wish to provide our support as an employer within the conservation and habitat management industry to the above qualification. 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.

We support the inclusion in the qualification of the following skills and knowledge, and feel that including a practical work experience element is very valuable as this is often where young people attempting to enter the industry fall down:

- 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)

The qualification would give a young person an advantage when seeking employment for an entry level job such as an assistant conservation worker, assistant wildlife or recreation ranger, assistant landscape officer or similar. In addition, the qualification would also be suitable for someone to progress to further learning and training, or to an apprenticeship in the land and wildlife sector.

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

Yours sincerely



Joy Howells

Landscape Partnership Scheme Manager, Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership