

# Briefing Paper on Maritime Training Proposal

The current lack of formal maritime training is of some concern in light of efforts to develop St Helena's fishing industry. This paper serves to advise members of the Education Committee of the work undertaken to date in identifying appropriate accredited qualifications in this field along with clarifying what steps and resources are required to move towards delivery of this training.

## *Decisions requested*

Members of the Education Committee are asked to:

- Note the proposal for Maritime Training and the steps that would be required for implementation of this proposal.

## *Rationale for Providing Maritime Training*

There is widespread concern about the sustainability of the fishing industry on St Helena in light of low rates of entry into the industry by young people. Plans to expand and develop local fisheries require skilled and qualified individuals who can participate effectively in what has the potential to become a key support for St Helena's economy.

## *Potential Qualifications*

The options for appropriate UK-based qualifications are quite limited for a number of reasons. Growing concerns about health and safety considerations have limited the availability of qualifications for 14 – 16 year olds in a number of vocational areas that are perceived as potentially hazardous, including maritime studies. In addition, changes to UK vocational qualifications to increase their rigour and raise standards have meant that many qualifications available as little as a year ago have now been withdrawn.

After extensive research, the Directorate has identified the suite of maritime qualifications offered by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) as the most promising option for St Helena. These qualifications offer a comprehensive portfolio of maritime qualifications to support the maritime sector, with further qualifications currently under development. SQA qualifications develop the employability skills valued by employers and necessary for effective work within the maritime industry.

The Maritime Skills Alliance independently attests the value of these qualifications. Iain Mackinnon, Secretary to the Maritime Skills Alliance, provides this recommendation:

"SQA is the Maritime Skills Alliance's preferred awarding organisation. We have developed a close working relationship with them to ensure that the qualifications meet employers'

needs and also reflect UK and international regulations. Colleagues at SQA have a very good understanding of the sector and the practical reality of delivering our qualifications; they're good partners."

With that in mind, the Directorate is exploring the possibility of introducing two strands of Maritime Training, one aimed at Year 10 and 11 students at Prince Andrew School and the other at adult learners (aged 16+), including but not limited to those who may wish to undertake an apprenticeship in this field. The following SQA qualifications have been selected for this purpose:

<b>Target Audience</b>	<b>Qualification</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Guided Learning Hours</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Years 10/11	Award in Nautical Studies	2	90	9
Adults (16+)	Diploma in Maritime Studies: Seafishing	2	390	39

More information about these qualifications can be found in Appendix 1 (for the Award in Nautical Studies) and Appendix 2 (for the Diploma in Maritime Studies: Seafishing). It is useful to note that the Award in Nautical Studies will provide credit toward the Diploma in Maritime Studies and may reduce the time needed to complete the Diploma.

It should be noted that there are differences in these two qualifications that represent the educational policy issues around education for potentially hazardous vocations. The Award in Nautical Studies at QCF level 2 provides an overview of the maritime sector and an introduction to navigation. It also develops knowledge and skills related to maritime employment and to environmental, health and safety practice. Although practical in nature, this qualification is designed to be delivered in a school or college environment, as is appropriate for learners of compulsory education age.

The level 2 Diploma in Maritime Studies: Seafishing has been developed by the Maritime Skills Alliance (MSA) and is suitable for adults who are working, or intending to work, in the Maritime sector. For those completing the Sea Fishing Diploma, there is the opportunity to become a skipper of a vessel of less than 16.5 metres in length.

Although these qualification appear to meet the needs of St Helena's industry, however, there are still a number of steps which would need to be completed before the Education and & Employment Directorate can proceed towards implementation. These steps are outlined below.

### ***Steps to Implementation***

Before this training programme can be implemented, the following steps are essential:

- Develop a working relationship with the Scottish Qualifications Authority to explore the suitability and availability of these qualifications.

- Gain access to specification details so that the suitability of the qualifications can be fully evaluated.
- Seek stakeholder support and endorsement of the qualifications, based on consideration of the full specification, working with ESH and ENRD.
- Seek approval and support from the local authorities on St Helena.
- Work with insurance provider to develop appropriate insurance cover for Maritime Apprenticeship.
- Identify funding requirements and sources. (Enterprise St Helena has indicated a willingness, in principle, to provide support.)
- Gain approval from the Scottish Qualifications Authority for an examinations centre in St Helena.
- Recruit a suitable and qualified instructor for the course(s).
- Identify and procure any necessary resources to deliver the qualifications.
- Recruit and register interested candidates.

## Appendix 1—Level 2 Award in Nautical Studies



### Qualification structure for SQA Level 2 Award in Nautical Studies

**SQA Qualification Code: GJ3K 62**

**Ofqual Qualification Code: 601/2661/9**

To attain the qualification, learners must achieve a total of 9 credits.

This comprises:

9 Mandatory credits

**Please note:** It is important that the SQA Unit codes are used in all your recording documentation and when your results are communicated to SQA.

#### **Mandatory Units: Learners must achieve 9 credits**

<b>SQA Unit Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Ofqual Unit code</b>	<b>QCF Level</b>	<b>QCF credit value</b>	<b>GLH</b>
FA5M 54	Maritime Employment, Environmental and Health and Safety Practice	Y/501/2738	2	2	20
FA69 54	Maritime Sector Overview	D/501/2739	2	3	30
H6RH 62	Introduction to Navigation	A/505/9342	2	4	40

## Appendix 2—Level 2 Diploma in Seafishing



### **Qualification Structure for SQA Level 2 Diploma in Maritime Studies: Seafishing**

**SQA Qualification Code: GD29 60**

**Ofqual Qualification Code: 600/3122/0**

To attain the qualification, learners must achieve a total of 39 Credits.

This comprises:

38 Mandatory Credits

1 Optional (Mandatory) Credit

**Please note:** It is important that the SQA Unit codes are used in all your recording documentation and when your results are communicated to SQA.

**Mandatory Units: Learners must achieve 38 credits**

<b>SQA Unit Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Ofqual Unit code</b>	<b>QCF Level</b>	<b>QCF credit value</b>	<b>GLH</b>
FA5M 54	Maritime Employment, Environmental and Health and Safety Practice	Y/501/2738	2	2	20
FA69 54	Maritime Sector Overview	D/501/2739	2	3	30
FA5N 54	Survival in the Water During Maritime Emergencies	Y/602/3071	2	1	8
FA5P 54	Maritime Security	K/602/3866	2	1	8
FA5R 54	Emergency First Aid in Response to Maritime Accidents or Medical Emergencies	A/602/3872	2	1	7

<b>SQA Unit Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Ofqual Unit code</b>	<b>QCF Level</b>	<b>QCF credit value</b>	<b>GLH</b>
FA68 54	Communicate Using Equipment and Visual Means	J/602/4023	2	2	18
FA61 54	Securing a Vessel for Passage	H/602/3901	2	3	28
FA63 54	Assist with a Vessel's Navigational Watch	J/602/3907	2	3	28
FA60 54	Vessel Ropework, Anchoring and Mooring Operations	K/602/3897	2	5	50
FA66 54	Assemble, Operate and Maintain Fishing Gear	A/602/4021	2	5	50
FA67 54	Receiving Handling and Stowing the Catch on a Fishing Vessel	F/602/4022	2	5	50
FA6C 54	Maintain Your Own Work Practice	M/602/4436	2	2	15
FA62 54	Vessel Construction and Stability	T/602/3904	2	5	50

**Optional Units: Learners must achieve 1 (Mandatory) credit**

<b>SQA Unit Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Ofqual Unit code</b>	<b>QCF Level</b>	<b>QCF credit value</b>	<b>GLH</b>
FA5T 54	Vessel Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting	T/502/5920	2	2	20
FA5V 54	Maritime Fire Prevention and Fire Actions	D/602/3878	2	1	8

**Additional Optional Units**

<b>SQA Unit Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Ofqual Unit code</b>	<b>QCF Level</b>	<b>QCF credit value</b>	<b>GLH</b>
FA6A 54	Assist With Cooking on a Fishing Vessel	R/602/4025	2	2	18