

## Statement of Purpose

### 500/8286/3 – Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Fish Management (QCF)

The environmental and land-based sector provides a diverse cross-section of employment opportunities regarding the production and use of renewable and/or recyclable natural resources. Angling is one of the most popular leisure activities in the UK, generating over £3.5bn for the UK economy, and with over 4 million participants. In addition to angling, the qualification caters for the ornamental fish and fish farming industries. Level 3 Fish Management qualifications provide the background science, business management, husbandry and estate skills required for entering a career in any section of the fish industry.

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate (180 GLH) in Fish Management is part of a larger suite of Environmental and Land-based qualifications, in a range of sizes, which share the common purpose of helping people to become occupationally ready to take up employment in the environmental and land-based sector at the appropriate level. This can follow either directly after achieving the qualification, or via the stepping stone of Higher Education (HE) in university or college. By studying a BTEC National, learners develop knowledge, understanding and skills required by the sector, including essential employability skills, and apply them in real work contexts. Learners can operate at a standard that can reasonably be expected of an 18 year old in full-time education.

**Within this suite, the Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Fish Management (180 GLH) is a vocational qualification, equivalent in size to an AS level**, which is designed to be taken alongside one or more substantial qualifications within a 16 to 19 study programme. It is particularly appropriate for those with an interest in progressing to a career in a resource management related field, who want to pursue this via a principally academic route and take it alongside other qualifications, such as geography or zoology. It is also appropriate for those aged 16 who are ready to start an element of level 3 vocational study while completing aspects of their level 2 programme.

The qualification was designed in collaboration with industry, so has the specific support of the Sector Skills Council (SSC) for the sector, LANTRA. The Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Fish Management supports entry to a variety of HE courses in this sector and beyond, when taken in conjunction with other qualifications. This is confirmed by the specific support of a range of universities. In addition, the qualification carries UCAS points – see details published on the Pearson website here:

<http://www.edexcel.com/i-am-a/student/results/Pages/BTEC-equivalence.aspx>