## Subject: Withdrawal of Wider key Skills Level 4

**Date:** 01/09/2016

**Created by:** QA

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# Withdrawal Notice: This Communication notice relates to the withdrawal of the following Wider Key Skills Qualifications:

ASDAN Key Skills in Improving own Learning and Performance Level 4 (100/3798/6)

ASDAN Key Skills in Working with Others Level 4 (100/3794/9)

ASDAN Key Skills in Problem Solving Level 4 (100/3802/4)

## Key Dates

Final candidate “number” registration (CANa) will be September 30th 2016

Final candidate “name” registration and certification claim (CANb) will be September 30th 2017

# Background

ASDAN currently offers the three Wider Key Skills at Levels 1 to 4:

• Working with Others

• Improving Own Learning and Performance

• Problem Solving

The interest and importance of the Wider Key Skills Levels 1 to 3 continue to be maintained within our centres, who recognise the benefit of the qualifications to learners in providing opportunities to accredit a wide range of generic learning activities and supporting personalised learning and progression to Traineeships, Apprenticeships or higher education. They are also widely recognised as contributing to improvements in self-esteem, motivation and quality of learning and performance. At Level 3, they attract UCAS tariff points.

However, Ofqual recently commissioned an independent panel to report on the number of unused qualifications on offer within the qualifications market, and has taken the decision, based on the recommendations of this report, to remove from the Register all qualifications that have not been awarded for at least two years.

Amongst ASDAN’s qualifications, only Working with Others and Problem Solving at Level 4 were identified as such qualifications, and we have no option but to withdraw them. As we have only awarded Improving own Learning and Performance Level 4 to a very small number of candidates, it is therefore our decision to withdraw all three of the Wider Key Skills, at Level 4 only, on the basis of small numbers of learners.

**Protecting the Interests of Learners**

It is important to ASDAN, and a requirement of our Conditions of Recognition, to protect the interests of learners. Learners can still be registered on this programme in September of this year with a further year available to achieve.