

Tony Goddard Training & Development Manager Tata Steel Speciality Stocksbridge South Yorkshire S36 2JA

30th Sept 2014

Dear Charlotte Bosworth,

As an employer of engineering apprentices and graduates in the South Yorkshire region we are keen to support any initiatives that are aimed to improve the standard of students that will eventually take up our apprenticeship and graduate places.

After reviewing the contents of the OCR Cambridge Technical Foundation Diploma and Diploma listed below:

607/4600/X OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Foundation Diploma in Engineering (VRQ) Electrical & Electronic engineering pathway Mechanical engineering and design pathway Manufacturing pathway Automation, Systems and control pathway

601/4599/7 OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Diploma in Engineering (VRQ) Electrical and Electronic Engineering pathway Mechanical engineering and design pathway Manufacturing pathway Automation, Systems and control pathway

We believe that the skills and knowledge the students will gain through taking these qualifications will act as a basis for further progression in the workplace and support the qualifications required to complete the current engineering apprenticeship frameworks. For those who choose to continue their academic pathway, the skills and knowledge they will gain from these qualifications will provide a bridge to further and higher education within the relevant engineering fields.

As the demands increase for more highly skilled engineers due to technology developments and an ageing work force, the skills and knowledge levels for those beginning an engineering career will be critical. Qualifications of this nature will provide the levels of education that will be expected by businesses in the coming years to address the skills issues we face.

As a result of the review we support the qualifications for inclusion in the school and college performance tables for 16-19 year olds.

Yours sincerely

Tony Goddard Training & Development Manager 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014

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