**Achievement Scheme Controller**

**Report to Areas Council & BMFA Board**

**September 2024**

* I’m really pleased to be able to report that despite the far from ideal weather conditions, there have been some excellent Training and Testing days, Examiner workshops and other Scheme related events delivered by Areas during the ‘summer’. I’d like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Areas involved for doing this, as it helps enormously in raising awareness, improving consistency, and helping in the effective delivery of the scheme.

* Over recent months, the office noted that a handful of Examiners were accepting evidence of the candidate having passed the CAA DMARES test in place of the Registration Competency Certificate (RCC). The DMARES test is not acceptable, as it doesn’t test awareness of our Article 16 Authorisation. It was agreed that the candidates would not be penalised, and that the tests would stand, but I wrote to each of the individual examiners concerned to advise them of the correct procedure and the reasoning behind it. Subsequently, Andy Symons has modified the test form to help prevent any reoccurrence.
* It may interest Board and Council members to know that following the introduction of the RCC (which is an excellent measure of familiarity with our Article 16 Authorisation) that over 95 % of tests candidates presenting for a test have already passed the RCC, rather than opt to answer an additional 5 Mandatory questions during the test.
* I reported earlier in the year that the BMFA South-West Area were struggling to fill the role of Area Achievement Scheme Co-ordinator (a mandatory requirement under the new Areas Constitution) and that I was temporarily fulfilling the role. I’m pleased to report that the Area have now identified a suitable individual, Darryl Rickard who has taken over the role. November.
* Although some ‘equivalences’ have already been agreed, there has been little or slow progress – due largely to having no meetings during the summer holidays - made between the ASRC and the SAA regarding the ‘harmonisation’ of the two Achievement Schemes.
* As mentioned previously, the presentational re-vamp of all Scheme documentation has been put on hold until 2025. The idea is to ‘refresh’ the appearance of the guidance documentation that supports each of the tests, to make it more appealing and easier to digest. This will include more and improved graphics, which as I’m sure I don’t have to stress, is a serious undertaking, as there are currently over 30 tests in the Scheme portfolio. Much of this work will fall to Chris Bradbury as he has the necessary skills, and other than proof reading, there isn’t much that the other members of the ASRC can contribute to the process. This will be a major topic for discussion at the next ASRC meeting, which is scheduled for 24th September.

Duncan McClure

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