

Learning Contracts

- A visible way of allowing the individual and university to agree a personal programme with advice from the Professional Institution. The IET acting as a “critical friend”.
- A protocol was created defining UK-SPEC as a reference point.
- UK-SPEC is a broad and generic document not a detailed set of learning outcomes.
- The IET mirrors this by looking for “general fitness for purpose”.
- IET advice is provided from the perspective of potential for Professional Registration not Academic Accreditation – although an accreditation model could be evolved based on actual outputs.
- Other institutions may wish to be more detailed and prescriptive but this could cause delay.

Review of learning contracts experience so far

- Initial “Audit” – generally a reflection by the candidate – could be more critical and focussed – could be a formal APL process?
- Design of programme/choice of programmes seem reasonable – i.e. have appropriate engineering content.
- Internal review/approval process within the university
- Substantial e.g. 10 -20 A4 pages but not excessive
- Usually some issues of concern that the work role will develop sufficiently to demonstrate competent practice as a Chartered Engineer by the time of completion.