

## **NOTICE TO CENTRES**

FAO: Examinations Officer / Teacher of Environmental and Land-based Science

Date: September 2008

Subject: GCSE Environmental and Land-based Science

### **GCSE Environmental and Land-based Science: J650**

#### **Tests for Units: B491, B492, B493, B494, B495 in January 2009**

OCR is aware that concerns have been expressed by schools about the software used to administer the on-screen tests for these units. In the light of this feedback, and the particular difficulties experienced with the test for Unit B494 in the summer 2008 series, OCR is currently reviewing the software and making decisions about how it can be modified and improved to ensure that the difficulties experienced this year do not happen again and that the application can be managed in schools without making unreasonable demands on the time of staff.

**To give sufficient time to complete this review and to implement any changes required, OCR has taken the decision not to offer on-screen assessment for GCSE Environmental and Land-based Science in the January 2009 series.**

**Centres will be provided with paper copies of the tests for all candidates entered for these units.**

Further information will be provided in January 2009 about the tests for the June 2009 series.