



Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Landscape Management and Maintenance

Unit code: F1JC 35

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to allow candidates to develop their knowledge and skills in Landscape Management and Maintenance. It is designed to be taught in the context of public and private sector amenity landscape management, including local authority provision at all levels, private and trust gardens and estates open to the public, country parks, community parks, woodlands, urban landscape schemes and to some extent nature conservation areas.

On completion of the Unit the candidate should be able to:

- 1 Distinguish between Landscape Management and Maintenance.
- 2 Compare and Contrast Landscape Maintenance across a range of Landscape Types.
- 3 Prepare Management Proposals for a given Site.
- 4 Evaluate the relationship between Landscape Management, Environmental and Social Issues.

Credit points and level: 1 HN credit at SCQF level 8: (8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 8*)

**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

Recommended prior knowledge and skills: Access to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, however it would be beneficial if candidates have completed the Units *Landscape Specification and Estimation* and *Landscape Practices*, and have a broad experience of landscape systems.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Communication* and *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 6 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Context for delivery: If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

Assessment: Outcome 1 of this Unit may be assessed by a series of extended response questions. Outcomes 2 and 3 may be assessed by a Case Study and may be combined. Outcome 4 may be assessed by a report supported by extended response questions.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

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The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, Knowledge and/or Skills, and Evidence Requirements are mandatory.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the Knowledge and/or Skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Candidates should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

Outcome 1

Distinguish between landscape management and maintenance

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Factors: timescales, constraints, opportunities
- ◆ Responsibilities: client, contractor, public, legal, environmental
- ◆ Landscape management: planning, resources and monitoring
- ◆ Grounds maintenance: work organisation, performance of tasks

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ explain the factors and responsibilities involved in landscape management correctly
- ◆ explain the factors and responsibilities involved in grounds maintenance correctly
- ◆ evaluate and justify the relationship between landscape management and maintenance

Assessment Guidelines

Written and/or oral evidence in the form of an extended response of the candidate's ability to distinguish between landscape management and maintenance.

Outcome 2

Compare and contrast landscape maintenance across a range of landscape types

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Landscape types: soft landscape, hard surfaces/landscape features
- ◆ User groups: human, wildlife

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Landscape Management and Maintenance

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ define the aims and objectives in landscape management for specified sites correctly in terms of function and user group
- ◆ evaluate the relationship between resource input and aesthetic appeal in terms of constraints and opportunities clearly
- ◆ Summarise maintenance techniques for specified sites correctly
- ◆ compare landscape management approaches between different sites correctly

Assessment Guidelines

Written, oral and/or graphical evidence in the form of a case study comparing landscape management and maintenance across a range of sites visited.

This Outcome may be integrated with Outcome 3.

Outcome 3

Prepare management proposals for a given site

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Biological character: vegetation, animal
- ◆ Constraints: physical, edaphic, financial
- ◆ User groups

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ describe the site for which proposals are prepared correctly in terms of biological character, constraints and current and potential use
- ◆ state short and long term management objectives appropriate to the given site in terms of time scale

Assessment Guidelines

Written, graphical, arithmetical, and/or oral evidence in the form of a case study detailing management proposals. This Outcome may be integrated with Outcome 2.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Landscape Management and Maintenance

Outcome 4

Evaluate the relationship between landscape management, environmental and social issues

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Environmental impacts: pollution, use of non-renewable resources
- ◆ Land regeneration: spoiled land, derelict sites
- ◆ Techniques for visitor management: transport strategies, site protection and social strategies

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ evaluate the long-term impact of landscape maintenance techniques of environmental quality in a clear and justified manner
- ◆ analyse the contribution of landscape management to land regeneration and conservation correctly with reference to specific examples
- ◆ describe techniques for the management of visitor numbers on landscapes clearly and concisely

Assessment Guidelines

Written and/or oral and graphical evidence in the form of a visitor report and restricted response.

Administrative Information

Unit code: F1JC 35

Unit title: Landscape Management and Maintenance

Superclass category: SF

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Version	Description of change	Date

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Landscape Management and Maintenance

This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit is intended to be taught in the context of public and private sector amenity landscape management, including local authority provision at all levels, private and trust gardens and estates open to the public, country parks, community parks, woodlands, urban landscape schemes and to some extent nature conservation areas. It will be of benefit to candidates to visit as wide a range of amenity landscapes as possible and reference to actual examples should be made throughout the teaching of this Unit. Visits from those working in landscape management in the community should be encouraged. Lectures, individual and group research, tutorials, and discussion could be used in the delivery of the material.

- Outcome 1 Could be taught mainly through guided discussion, class exercises, formal lectures and student centred research using the internet. The points raised at this point will be emphasised through the course of this Unit. Assessment could take the form of extended response and should aim to introduce the candidates behind landscape management and maintenance.
- Outcome 2 Could be taught through formal lectures, visits, guest speakers, discussion and student centred research using the internet. Relating the theory to actual examples will increase the relevance of the material and lectures should be illustrated wherever possible. Ideally, the assessment for this Outcome will take the form of a case study. This could focus on the different elements in a single site and their management and maintenance, or it could compare two or three different sites that are linked by a common factor such as a user group, managing authority or site history. An example of the latter would be the comparison of parks developed following the reclamation of derelict land using different techniques or having different aims. It is important that sites chosen have the minimum range of elements specified in the knowledge and understanding section of this Outcome in order that the candidates are assessed on their understanding of a variety of management and maintenance techniques. This Outcome may be integrated with Outcome 3.
- Outcome 3 During the delivery of this Outcome, actual examples of management plans and proposals, and current conditions of contract should be available and guidance given in lectures regarding format and content.
- Visits to the site to be used for assessment should be made as a group where possible. This Outcome may be integrated with Outcome 2.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Landscape Management and Maintenance

Outcome 4 Teaching should focus on both the positive and negative effects of landscape management and maintenance on the environment and the ways in which research and development have reduced negative environmental impacts (for example, improved techniques in composting, shredding and recycling of green waste). The social aspects of landscape management and provision are linked to the environmental aspects by examining the impact of visitors on amenity landscapes and lead from there into discussion of the ways in which individuals and communities may be encouraged to deal more responsibly with landscapes through involvement and education.

Delivery of the Outcome will combine illustrated lectures with discussion, group work and student centred research using the internet. Reference to previous visits will be valuable and guest speakers will be encouraged.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit is likely to form part of a Group Award designed to provide candidates with technical or professional skills for specific or occupational areas. Those who successfully complete the award may progress towards a career in Landscape Management and Maintenance.

This Unit may be delivered at any time during the Group Award.

In general terms, Outcome 1 is an introduction to the concepts of Landscape Management and Maintenance, Outcomes 2 and 3 form an integrated case study following visits to sites, and Outcome 4 discusses some of the wider management issues.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Communication* and *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 6 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Open learning

Candidates would benefit most by attending class based lectures and visiting selected sites with their peer group. Classroom based discussions following these visits will enrich the learning experience. This Unit does not lend itself to open learning.

Candidates with disabilities and/or additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. Further advice can be found in the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs* (www.sqa.org.uk).

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The Unit has four main areas, each the subject of a separate Outcome, with the potential for integration.

You will distinguish between Landscape Management and Landscape Maintenance reviewing management styles across a range of sites visited.

You will prepare management proposals for a given site encompassing information gathered from sites visited. Finally you will evaluate the relationship between landscape management, environmental and social issues, identifying conflicts where they exist.

To complete this Unit successfully you will have to achieve all Outcomes to a satisfactory level of performance.