



NQ Verification 2014–15 Key Messages Round 2

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Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	Accounting
Verification event/visiting information	Central Verification
Date published:	June 2015

National Courses/Units/Awards verified:

H1YS National 5 Analysing Accounting Information
H1YS Higher Analysing Accounting Information

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Section 2: Comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

All centres that were verified used approaches that were deemed valid.

All centres used SQA instruments of assessment, with the Unit-by-Unit approach being the preferred option.

Assessment judgements

Verifiers found that the majority of evidence submitted was of an acceptable standard, which indicated that centres had a clear understanding of the requirements of the national standard and applied these to the marking of Unit assessments.

Computational Outcomes were in general, marked to a high standard for both National 5 and Higher. Few issues were encountered.

Theory continues to be weak at National 5 and Higher, in particular Higher Outcome 1.2 and Outcome 2.2 in the Unit Analysing Accounting Information.

Centres should approach candidate responses which refer to PESTEC as non-financial performance indicators for Outcome 1.2, with caution. Ideally, internal

non-financial factors should be **described** (ie ethical/environmental policies/employee relations). Centres should be aware that candidates who simply **identify** financial/non-financial factors, instead of describing, will be deemed to have not met the national standard for this Outcome.

Similarly, expectations must be raised regarding candidate responses for Outcome 2.2. Where using Analysing Accounting Information Package 1 Unit-by-Unit approach, for Task 2b candidates must evaluate each of the options and then recommend the most appropriate course of action. In some instances no recommendation was made. In Task 3a, where candidates correctly calculate payback to be 162.2 days, an answer rounded down to 162 days would be deemed incorrect. Payback is achieved on day 163, therefore acceptable responses would be either 162.2 days or 163 days.

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Section 3: General comments

Most centres submitted scripts where there was some evidence of internal verification. It is to centres' benefit to ensure that scripts submitted show clear evidence of this, otherwise this will be highlighted in the external verification report.

There is an expectation that 30% of each centre's submission has been internally verified. Many centres commendably exceeded this expectation.

It is expected that candidate evidence submitted for each Outcome clearly indicates whether the candidate has passed/failed.

Assessments should be completed in ink.