



# NQ Verification 2014–15

## Key Messages Round 1

### 01 Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	Economics
Verification event/visiting information	Event
Date published:	March 2015

#### National Courses/Units verified:

H234 75 National 5 Economics: Economics of the Market  
H234 76 Higher Economics: Economics of the Market  
H236 76 Higher Economics: UK Economic Activity

### 02 Section 2: Comments on assessment

#### Assessment approaches

The assessment approaches used by all centres at National 5 and Higher were deemed valid. All centres used SQA Unit assessment support packs or SQA Unit assessment support packs that had been adapted. The Unit by Unit approach was the preferred option.

#### Assessment judgements

Verifiers found that most of the evidence submitted was of a high standard, with centres having a clear understanding of the national standard. However, having considered the evidence submitted for National 5 and Higher in this round, it was evident that some centres were not fully aware of differences in requirements between the two levels. This was reflected by some responses that were accepted at Higher level.

Centres are advised to compare the judging evidence tables at both levels so that they are aware of the differences in the complexity of responses expected. For example: compare the commentary on assessment judgements for National 5 Economics of the Market Outcome 2.1 with the commentary on assessment judgements for Higher Economics of the Market Outcome 1.1.

## Section 3: General comments

All centres that submitted evidence completed candidate assessment records effectively. For this they are to be commended.

It was noted that rigorous internal verification was undertaken by most centres that submitted evidence and for this they are to be commended. However, centres are reminded that they must have an effective internal quality assurance system in place.

SQA has produced an Internal Verification Toolkit which provides great advice and support on designing and implementing the best model and approach to internal verification depending on your subject, centre and candidate needs. It can be found at [www.sqa.org.uk/IVtoolkit](http://www.sqa.org.uk/IVtoolkit).

Centres must ensure that the instrument of assessment, judging evidence tables and marking instructions are submitted with candidate evidence.

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

Where candidates are asked to draw graphs, the graph is sufficient. There is no need for a commentary to accompany the graph.

### **Local authority nominee(s)**

All centres are encouraged contact their local authority nominee(s) for extra help, advice and support. Nominees have been well trained in Understanding Standards and are a valuable resource in your authority for you to use.