

5 July 2005

To: College Principals

cc: SQA Co-ordinators, ASC and SFEU

Action by Recipient	
	Response required
	Note and pass on
✓	None — update/information only

Contact: Joe Wilson at Glasgow  
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E-mail: joe.wilson@sqa.org.uk

Dear Colleague

### **HNC/D in Social Sciences**

As a result of pre-validation considerations of the proposed 42 HN Social Science frameworks, it was agreed to postpone the validation meeting that was scheduled for 22 June 2005.

The decision to postpone the meeting was taken to allow further research into creating a structure that is fit for purpose and provides flexibility whilst at the same time meets SQA design principles and the aims of the HN Modernisation programme.

We recognise that some colleges had planned to move over to the new frameworks and were looking forward to using the new Units. As an interim measure and to allow colleges and candidates access to the new Units where this is desired, we will:

- ◆ Validate the revised versions of the social science subject specific Units and Graded Unit Exam SCQF level 7 into the 15 credit pilot HNC in Social Sciences – G6RX
- ◆ Revise D81V 34 Integrative Assessment Project SCQF level 7 to reduce the level of integration and complexity
- ◆ Validate the revised versions of the social science subject Units and Graded Unit Exam SCQF level 8 and Graded Unit Project SCQF level 8 into the pilot HND Social Sciences – G6X516

This interim arrangement allows centres to access the new subject specific Units and resolves current issues with the D81V 34 Integrative Assessment Project level 7. The arrangement also continues to adhere to the SQA criteria for qualifications validated using the pilot design rules.

We will produce a revised version of the Integrative Assessment Project level 7 by September 2005. Resources have also been secured to undertake additional market research regarding the structure of the qualifications. This research will be complete by November 2005 with a view to validation of qualifications in Spring 2006.

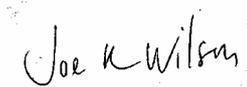
Colleges therefore have the following options for the new session:

- ◆ Make no changes to the current programme
- ◆ Adopt the new Units within the pilot HN qualification, where the centre is running this.
- ◆ Adopt the pilot HN Programme including the new Units as a replacement for old pre-pilot award.

Should you wish to discuss any of the above in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact either myself on 0141-242 2458 or Carol Hunter on 0141-242 2326.

I have copied this letter to your SQA Co-ordinator.

Yours faithfully



Joe Wilson  
Business Manager  
HN/SVQ