



## NQ Verification 2015–16 Key Messages Round 1

01

### Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	History
Verification event/visiting information	Event
Date published:	March 2016

#### National Courses/Units verified:

H20C 75, H20C 76	Historical Study: British
H205 75, H205 76	Historical Study: Scottish
H20D 75, H20D 76	Historical Study: European and World
H7WD 77	Historical Study
H7WE 77	Researching Historical Issues

02

### Section 2: Comments on assessment

#### Assessment approaches

Centres had made very good use of current Unit assessment support packs (UASPs) to create their own assessments.

In column 4 of the judging evidence table, it is preferable the 'possible response' is presented in the form of a candidate answer rather than being a list of acceptable points of evidence.

Centres are reminded that some UASPs were updated last year and that the most up-to-date version should be used.

#### Assessment judgements

Nominees found it very helpful to have a summary of individual candidates' attainments at the end of the script or on a separate form (centre-devised or the SQA grid) so the overall picture can be seen at a glance.

Nominees find it very helpful when the Assessment Standard (2.1 or 2.2 etc) is noted at the point of achievement.

It is helpful if candidates' oral additions are scripted/summarised by teachers then signed and dated by both. Many centres had made careful records, including specific dates and specific details of the discussions held, showing the evolution of the internal verification process.

It is considered good practice if centres continue annotating the script beyond the point of achievement of an Assessment Standard so that it can be assured that other Assessment Standards have/have not been met within the response.

### 03 **Section 3: General comments**

Overall the quality of submissions was of an even higher standard for this year's Round 1, reflecting the increasing experience and growing confidence of most centres.

Centres should note the new guidelines about sample size at particular levels. Centres are reminded that candidate evidence at a particular level (eg N4 or N5) must be submitted from the same Unit.

Centres should ensure that assessment tasks are included to support assessment of candidates' performances.

Centres should continue to submit 'naturally occurring' evidence to support candidates where appropriate.

#### **Internal verification**

Centres are reminded that they must have an effective internal quality assurance system which ensures that all candidates are assessed accurately, fairly and consistently to national standards. In addition, all internal assessments must be internally verified.

It was helpful to nominees if internal verification had been done in two separate colours and brief notes written at the point at which an Assessment Standard had been credited, particularly if there was any debate.

Also, nominees found it very helpful to have notes of discussions which identified specific issues or candidates where areas of debate existed. Overview notes of this sort were more helpful than general minutes in which the process was discussed.