



Skills for Learning Professionals

Assessment Strategy

SVQ in Youth Work

Introduction

Lifelong Learning UK, as the Sector Skills Council for the Lifelong Learning Sector, is responsible for developing an assessment strategy for all its qualifications in Scotland based on National Occupational Standards.

The strategy complements the generic criteria that Awarding Bodies must meet for the delivery of qualifications on the SCQF.

Lifelong Learning UK works in partnership with Awarding Bodies in order to deliver quality assessment and is happy to provide appropriate further guidance and support in implementing requirements.

1. Units of assessment

SVQs are competency based qualifications. The Assessment Strategy requires the Awarding Organisation to provide detail on each of the following listed below:

Quality assurance

Awarding Organisations should take appropriate steps to quality assure assessments at approved centres.

Risk assessment

Awarding Bodies should take an approach to their centres based on an assessment of risk with respect to the quality and consistency of assessment.

Awarding Body meetings

Lifelong Learning UK will arrange regular meetings with Awarding Bodies, the aim of which will be to promote consistency in the assessment process.

2. Workplace Evidence and Simulation

All performance evidence must come from real workplace practice in Youth Work. The use of simulation is not allowed for these qualifications.

Assessment evidence, although demonstrating competency across the performance and knowledge should, wherever possible, be holistic. This means that learners where possible should gather evidence to illustrate competency:

- Across elements and units that naturally link together in terms of whole jobs
- From naturally occurring evidence collected in the workplace;

Evidence must be authentic, current, sufficient, fit for purpose and valid.

Workplace evidence may be collected in the context of full time, part time, casual or voluntary employment.

3. Requirements for assessors

All those who assess these qualifications or units must:

- have up-to-date working knowledge and experience of best practice in youth work or a related vocational area, in line with any requirements as set out by any relevant national professional organisation;
- hold or be working towards one of the following:
 - L&D9DI Assess workplace competence using direct and indirect methods;
 - A1 Assess candidate performance using a range of methods;
 - any appropriate QCF qualifications and/or units as recognised by SQA accreditation;
- OR hold D32 Assess candidate performance and D33 Assess candidate using differing sources of evidence.

All assessors must show current evidence of continuing professional development in a relevant area of practice.

4. Requirements for internal quality assurance

All those who internally quality assure the SVQ qualifications or units must:

- have up-to-date working knowledge and experience of best practice in youth work or a related vocational area, in line with any requirements as set out by any relevant national professional organisation;
- hold one of the following:
 - L&D9DI Assess workplace competence using direct and indirect methods;
 - A1 Assess candidate performance using a range of methods;
 - any appropriate QCF qualifications and/or units as recognised by SQA accreditation;
 - D32 Assess candidate performance and D33 Assess candidate using differing sources of evidence.

They must either hold or be working towards one of the following internal quality assurance qualifications:

- L&D11 Internally monitor and maintain the quality of workplace assessment
- V1 Conduct internal quality assurance of the assessment process
- or hold D34 Internally verify the assessment process

All internal quality assurers must show current evidence of continuing professional development in a relevant area of practice.

5. Requirements for external quality assurance

All those who externally quality assure these qualifications or units must:

- have up-to-date working knowledge and experience of best practice in youth work or a related vocational area, in line with any requirements as set out by any relevant national professional organisation;
- hold one of the following:
 - L&D9DI Assess workplace competence using direct and indirect methods
 - A1 Assess candidate performance using a range of methods
 - any appropriate QCF qualifications and/or units as recognised by SQA accreditation
 - D32 Assess candidate performance and D33 Assess candidate using differing sources of evidence

They should hold one of the following internal quality assurance qualifications:

- L&D11 Internally monitor and maintain the quality of workplace assessment
- V1 Conduct internal quality assurance of the assessment process
- any appropriate QCF qualifications and/or units as recognised by SQA accreditation
- D34 Internally verify the assessment process

They must hold or be working towards one of the following external quality assurance qualifications:

- L&D12 Externally monitor and maintain the quality of workplace assessment
- V2 Conduct external quality assurance of the assessment process
- any appropriate QCF qualifications and/or units as recognised by SQA accreditation
- D35 Externally verify the assessment process

All external quality assurers must show current evidence of continuing professional development in a relevant area of practice.

6. Review and evaluation of the strategy

Lifelong Learning UK and the Awarding Bodies will continually monitor the effectiveness of the Assessment Strategy. It will be reviewed annually and revised, where necessary, every two years. The feedback will also be used to review assessment and quality assurance practices, identify and promulgate best practice and inform improvement to the strategy and to future revisions to NOS and qualifications.