

# NQ Verification 2014–15

## Key Messages Round 1

01

### Section 1: Verification group information

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

#### National Courses/Units verified:

H235 73 National 3 Media: Analysing Media Content  
H235 74 National 4 Media: Analysing Media Content  
H235 75 National 5 Media: Analysing Media Content  
H238 75 National 5 Media: Creating Media Content  
H235 76 New Higher Media: Analysing Media Content

02

### Section 2: Comments on assessment

#### Assessment approaches

Most centres are now using the Unit assessment support packs effectively at all levels.

Some centres are modifying the Unit assessment support packs to fit with local conditions and to allow their candidates personalisation and choice whilst maintaining depth and breadth and challenge.

Many of these amendments to the Unit assessment support packs are minor and the integrity of national standard is being maintained. However, where there are major changes to the assessment tasks, it is recommended that centres submit these for prior verification to ensure the validity of the assessment instrument in terms of achieving the national standard. This service is free and is available to all centres.

At Higher level, a wide range of texts are being taught and in a number of cases centres have chosen to use a themed approach, which can allow for a degree of personalisation and choice for candidates.

## Assessment judgements

For the majority of centres the judgements that are being made at National 3, National 4 and National 5 are mostly reliable.

However, at Higher there is still some uncertainty with assessment judgements. Candidates need to produce more developed responses and the analysis needs to be more in-depth, integrated and developed. Some responses showed little justification or argument. Some candidates are often still writing in a describe/explain manner and not providing that level of 'detail and complexity' required at Higher. These responses are more in line with criteria for National 5.

There is some confusion over Assessment Standard 1.5 at Higher. Some centres appear to have misunderstood the information in the Unit assessment support pack and think that it is possible to overtake Assessment Standard 1.5 by successfully dealing with two content-based key aspects in the assessment task for Assessment Standard 1.1. However, candidates must refer in detail to one further key aspect, which could be generated in evidence for Assessment Standards 1.2, 1.3 or 1.4, to fully achieve Assessment Standard 1.5.

The standard for 1.5 clearly states 'knowledge of at least three key aspects' is required to achieve the Assessment Standard. The statement then goes on to specify that 'evidence for this Assessment Standard will be generated during analysis of content, contexts or role of the media rather than in response to a discrete task'.

Some centres have incorrectly interpreted the statement in Assessment Task 1 of 1.1, 'This task has been formulated to provide opportunities to generate evidence for Assessment Standard 1.5 as well as 1.1...' to mean that by only achieving two content-based key aspects in 1.1 that sufficient evidence will have been generated to achieve Assessment Standard 1.5. However, to achieve the Assessment Standard for 1.5 a further (third) key aspect must be addressed 'during analysis of content, contexts or role of the media.'

In light of this confusion, we will review the Unit assessment support pack and clarify the requirements for Assessment Standard 1.5.

03

## Section 3: General comments

There is significant evidence of internal verification in the majority of centres. Evidence of individual departments, faculties and collegiate approaches were noted.

Documentation is generally very well done, especially where centres record assessment judgements using the material in the published assessment support packs.

A number of centres showed good practice in the delivery of the approaches and in the manner in which the assessment judgements were generated.