

Moderation Feedback -Central

Assessment Panel:

Economics

Qualification area

**Subject(s) and Level(s)
included in this report**

Economics – Intermediate 1 to Advanced Higher

Central Moderation

General comments on central moderation activity

Candidate performance in all areas was generally very good. The majority of Centres used the NAB items well and the marking standards were well understood and applied. A number of Centres were however slightly lenient in their marking of candidate scripts.

Specific issues identified

The Moderation exercise was well organised and the brief presentation at the start of the event was well received by the moderators. The support staff were all very helpful and accommodating and this helped to ensure that the Moderation exercise ran smoothly.

The main problem which moderators faced was ascertaining for some Centres the NAB items which were being applied in the Centre, as some Centres did not complete the front sheet with this information. It would be helpful if Centres were reminded to do this for next year.

One Centre has changed the mark allocation for one NAB and although the application of the cut-off score was appropriate, the weighting for particular topics was changed as a result – the Centre has been requested to change this practice, or have it ratified by SQA for next session.

One other slight concern was the use of verbal reassessments by some Centres – which I would suggest should only be used in-extremis when it is not possible to have a written reassessment. It would be useful if SQA could inform Centres of the circumstances of when verbal reassessment should be used.

Feedback to centres

Generally the standards of candidate performance was very good. However, centre should:

- Ensure the NABs are followed carefully and all pages required for assessment are included
- If they are accepting answers not included in the NAB, then an amended marking scheme must be included
- Ensure that any changes to NAB items are ratified by SQA prior to use