

# **National Qualifications 2006**

## **Senior Moderator Report**

**Subject: Psychology**

**Assessment Panel: Social Sciences**

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on moderation which has taken place within National Qualifications in this subject.

## NATIONAL UNITS

### TITLES/LEVELS OF NATIONAL UNITS MODERATED

**DF5K 11 – PSYCHOLOGY: UNDERSTANDING THE INDIVIDUAL**  
**DF5L 11 – PSYCHOLOGY: INVESTIGATING BEHAVIOUR**  
**DF5M 11 – PSYCHOLOGY: THE INDIVIDUAL IN THE SOCIAL CONTEXT**  
**DF5K 12 – PSYCHOLOGY: UNDERSTANDING THE INDIVIDUAL**  
**DF5L 12 – PSYCHOLOGY: INVESTIGATING BEHAVIOUR**  
**DF5M 12 – PSYCHOLOGY: THE INDIVIDUAL IN THE SOCIAL CONTEXT**  
**E9WL 10 – INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY**  
**EA57 11 – SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY: THE INDIVIDUAL AND GROUPS**  
**D0VP 12 – BASIC APPLICATIONS OF BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCE**  
**DF5L 10 – PSYCHOLOGY: INVESTIGATING BEHAVIOUR**  
**DF5K 10 – PSYCHOLOGY: UNDERSTANDING THE INDIVIDUAL**

### FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

#### General comments:

- Marking was mainly to national standards. Some centres were slightly over-generous on larger mark questions at ‘Higher’ level, especially in questions requiring analysis and evaluation. This is likely to lead to a false estimate of performance in external exam.
- In the DF5L Psychology: ‘Investigating Behaviour’ Unit some centres did not understand the need for both parts (exam and logbook) to achieve Unit. Not only should candidate be assessed on both parts but evidence needs to be retained in centre, not sent to SQA with Research Investigation. Copies of graphs, tables, etc should be made and kept with logbooks to show achievement.
- Some centres are still using ½ marks – this is not appropriate.
- The older units ‘Introduction to Psychology and Social Psychology’: The Individual and Groups were occasionally marked too leniently. Incorrect responses were marked as correct or not commented on.

#### Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

Materials were well organised in visiting moderation.

Good practice in marking included showing clearly on scripts where ‘Knowledge and Understanding’ marks and ‘Analysis and Evaluation’ marks were allocated.

This reflects marking in exam and could easily be adopted by centres.

Most centres are now showing clear evidence of candidate feedback given. It is beneficial to both strong and weak candidates to have positive comments as well as constructive criticism.

Most centres are using a different NAB for reassessment. This is appropriate unless a candidate has only 1 or 2 marks to achieve. Then redoing one question would be acceptable – although candidate could not use this for appeal purposes. It would be appropriate if centres showed evidence of Internal Moderation (such as sampling sheet).