

Moderation Feedback - Visiting

Care Scotland Stakeholders Group

Qualification area

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

Care HN and SVQ

Visiting Moderation

General comments on visiting moderation activity

- ◆ 155 visits took place over the session, of these 16 were to HNC Social Care within Further Education Colleges, the remaining 139 were concerned only with SVQ provision ranging from Scottish Progression Awards through to Care Level 4 Registered Managers Award.
- ◆ In addition there were eight NQ moderation samples examined all of which were accepted.
- ◆ In general reports show candidates are achieving their SVQ within a reasonable time frame.
- ◆ There appears to be development in the standard of evidence produced by candidates.
- ◆ A greater number of assessors are now qualified.
- ◆ The standard of internal moderation continues to improve.
- ◆ Moderators report centres are paying more attention to detail than in previous years and this in turn has led to a higher overall standard of work being presented for certification.
- ◆ It is also noted that more structured learning programmes for candidates are becoming more common this is due in part to the requirement for all employers to have a structured induction programme in place. The positive aspect of this for SVQ assessment is that knowledge evidence is more readily available.
- ◆ Links between the HNC Social Care and the SVQ Level 3 are becoming much clearer, many colleges have developed methods of cross referencing this evidence which is good practice and helps to ensure that candidates are not over assessed.
- ◆ There are, however, a small number of colleges who continue to demand evidence which is greater in length and depth than that which is required to meet the National Standard and this remains a concern.
- ◆ Moderators report good use of product evidence particularly in Level 4 Care and Registered Managers award.

Specific issues identified

SVQ

- ◆ Some evidence in a small number of centres, mostly private training providers, that commercially produced training packages are being used as the main source of evidence. Moderators are giving clear advice and support in these instances.
- ◆ Some evidence of over assessment, candidates producing large volume of evidence which is not always balanced with directly observed practice.
- ◆ Some evidence of over claiming for performance criteria, range and knowledge was also noted.
- ◆ The value base 'O' units continue to be poorly cross referenced in a minority of centres and there were a small number of reports showing that this unit was being assessed as a stand alone unit.
- ◆ The care sector is currently awaiting the start of the revised awards in 2005 and moderators report that planning for the changes is becoming an increasingly important aspect of visits as we work to ensure that a smooth transition can be enabled.
- ◆ This is a period of rapid growth in the Care sector due to the requirement for all staff to be registered with the Scottish Social Services Council over the next few years the continued support from moderators and from Care Scotland will be crucial to the successful completion of this.

Specific issues identified (cont)

HNC

- ◆ It continues to be the case that some colleges, one in particular, demand a volume of evidence in excess of that required to meet the National Standards. It is hoped that the revised HNC which contains more structured guidance will help to address this issue.
- ◆ There are a few colleges still not providing sufficient guidance for students to assist them in utilising their HNC assessments as knowledge evidence for the SVQ. Again this has been addressed in the design of the revised HNC.

Feedback to centres

Moderators feedback to centres includes the following:

- ◆ ensure that the value base 'O' unit evidence is contained within the evidence for all of the other units
- ◆ ensure that all evidence claims are made in ink and not in pencil
- ◆ ensure that all evidence claims are signed and dated
- ◆ ensure that candidates produce reflective accounts for each unit within the award and that there is sufficient direct observation to show that the candidate is competent
- ◆ good use of product evidence is used to provide evidence of practice
- ◆ SQA Quality Networks and the Scottish Network of Internal Verifiers provide good support for internal verifiers and assessors
- ◆ induction training provides a good source of evidence for vocational qualifications
- ◆ HNC Social Care provides candidates with a good source of knowledge evidence for their SVQ
- ◆ care should be taken to ensure that all product evidence is anonymised
- ◆ cross referencing of evidence helps to ensure that candidates are not over assessed