



NQGA Conference Evaluation
August 2010

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Executive summary

NQGA Networking Events:

Thursday 19 August 2010 — Stirling Management Centre

Tuesday 24 August — Glasgow Radisson

The National Qualifications Group Award (NQGA) Development Team ran two networking events to disseminate information on Specialist Collaborative National Qualification Group Awards and encourage college engagement.

Representatives from each of the 43 Scottish colleges were invited to attend one of the events, and 25 attended.

The events consisted of presentations from SQA colleagues and presentations from sector colleagues who provided case study evidence about their NQGA Specialist Collaborative development experience and explained why and how they got involved, and how it worked for them.

Current developments were presented and a list of proposed future developments was circulated at the event. Colleges were asked to note their interest in participating in these proposed developments.

Following the event, colleges were asked to complete an online survey. Of the 25 attendees, 17 colleges responded and the results are presented in the remainder of this report.

Feedback from the evaluations and college returns expressed that the workshops in the afternoon were very productive and provided good networking opportunities which gave support for possible new NQGA Specialist Collaborative developments.

Summary of responses

Out of the 25 colleges who attended the events, a total of 17 colleges completed an online evaluation. 6 colleges responded from event 1 and 11 colleges from event 2. Not all questions were answered by all respondents and figures below are based on those who did respond:

Section 1

1. What is your overall rating of the event?

	Dissatisfied	Not very satisfied	Satisfied	Very satisfied
Event 1			100%	
Event 2		9.1%	54.5%	36.4%

2. How well were your expectations met?

	Dissatisfied	Not very satisfied	Satisfied	Very satisfied
Event 1			100%	
Event 2		9.1%	63.6%	27.3%

3. What did you think of the format of the day?

	Dissatisfied	Not very satisfied	Satisfied	Very satisfied
Event 1			25%	75%
Event 2		10%	40%	50%

4. Did you find the group session useful?

	Dissatisfied	Not very satisfied	Satisfied	Very satisfied
Event 1			50%	50%
Event 2	9.1%	9.1%	36.4%	54.5%

5. Was the content relevant to you?

	Dissatisfied	Not very satisfied	Satisfied	Very satisfied
Event 1			75%	25%
Event 2		9.1%	36.4%	54.5%

Comments included:

- ◆ ‘Lots of topical discussions.’
- ◆ ‘The format was acceptable but unfortunately the activities to go with the format were not. The first group session was ok — the second was a waste of time for me because it was not a group session.’
- ◆ ‘Felt a bit rushed in the end and might have been more appropriate to have scheduled slightly more time for the discussion sessions.’
- ◆ ‘A useful update of developments to date together with an opportunity to hear and give some views on some of the challenges still facing the sector in developing and implementing NQGA’s.’

Section 2

1. Do you plan to implement any of the ideas discussed today?

	Yes	No
Event 1	75%	25%
Event 2	90%	10%

Comments included:

- ◆ ‘I have no involvement in curricular planning, therefore it would be difficult for me to implement ideas raised at the event.’
- ◆ ‘Promoting lower level employability and leadership, to help attainment.’
- ◆ ‘To identify areas that may require the inclusion of group awards into programmes rather than candidates gaining a list of units.’
- ◆ ‘Not so much implement ideas, but distribute information from the event (which may in turn lead to implementation of ideas).’
- ◆ ‘We have indicated our willingness to become involved in a range of developments.’
- ◆ ‘Will discuss this information with curriculum teams when reviewing our curriculum.’

Section 3

1. Has attendance at the event been of any benefit to either you or your centre?

	Yes	No
Event 1	75%	25%
Event 2	100%	

Comments included:

- ◆ ‘Allowed me to gain more insight into NQGA.’
- ◆ ‘New ideas for future development of units.’

- ◆ 'To provide an up to date and relevant portfolio.'
- ◆ 'Update on developments and those in the pipeline.'
- ◆ 'Networking opportunity.'
- ◆ 'Information from Scotland's Colleges regarding future related events was useful.'
- ◆ 'Provide very useful update on current and proposed developments and an opportunity to discuss these with SQA officers and college colleagues.'
- ◆ 'Useful update clarification of some issues.'
- ◆ 'I now have a fuller picture of NQ developments (planned and proposed).'
- ◆ 'Highly motivating.'
- ◆ 'Raised my awareness and urgency of funding situation therefore will certainly identify with colleagues any subject NC/NPA developments that we may wish to become involved with in the near future.'

Section 4

1. What ideas would you propose for future events?

- ◆ 'Feedback from centres who have had help with development visits.'
- ◆ 'Processes for collaboration. Monitoring collaboration to meet timescales.'
- ◆ 'Tie down the round table discussions to avoid open-ended discussion. Make sure that the activity actually involves discussion. If not, don't have it.'
- ◆ 'A further update event with feedback from SQA on how/whether ideas given from the sector have been adopted.'
- ◆ 'Sharing experiences with QDTs.'

Other Comments

- ◆ 'Enjoyed the group discussions. Many thanks.'
- ◆ 'Overall, I thought the event was well organised, in a suitable location and venue, dealing with issues which were relevant to the college.'
- ◆ 'A good venue with excellent hospitality!'

Colleges who attended

Aberdeen College
Adam Smith College
Angus College
Anniesland College
Ayr College
Borders College
Central College Glasgow
Clydebank College
Coatbridge College
Cumbernauld College
Dumfries and Galloway College
Glasgow Metropolitan College
Inverness College
James Watt College
Jewel and Esk College
John Wheatley College
Kilmarnock College
Langside College
Motherwell College
North Glasgow College
Perth College
Reid Kerr College
South Lanarkshire College