SQA/AAT SVQ ACCOUNTING NETWORK EVENT

Friday 22 September 2006

Notes from Workshops (3 groups)

Identify strengths of current award – what is working well

- Flexible, suits lots of different types of candidates
- Can also be offered to full-time students in colleges (eg SVQ level 2 offered to full-time National Certificate students)
- Level 2 is a good level to start with, allows for job rotation in the workplace
- Lots of good commercial simulation materials to help support delivery and assessment

Identify any difficulties – assessment, moderation, materials, exam, etc

- No real difficulties, no problems with current standards
- No problems with exam
- AAT simulations hard, but delegates agreed this is a good thing. Length and integrative nature of simulations does lead to lots of work in marking - suggest breaking the tasks up a little

Problems re lack of clarity on how partnership between SQA/AAT works have been resolved – guidance leaflet helpful

Feedback on external moderation

- No problems here – centres know External Verifiers (EVs) are there to support them.
- Plans to co-ordinate EV activity are welcomed

Feedback on proposal to add bookkeeping competencies to standards:

- Via discrete units or
- Embedded within units

2 of the 3 groups felt that these competencies were best added as new, discrete units. These should be mandatory and cover manual bookkeeping. There would be 2 advantages:

- provide underpinning knowledge and understanding of manual system before going on to use computerised system
- could be used as a milestone for funding – would help overcome present difficulty as nature of award means funding can only be claimed at end

Action: SQA to feed back to AOSG recommending that discrete units be added to the framework (mandatory)

Share good practice

- College practice of delivering level 2 to full-time non-advanced accounting students

What do you want from the networking events – in what form and when

- Like current format of update and workshops
- Suggest 2 per year – dependant on what kind of changes are taking place
- Suggest combine with Assessor/IV masterclasses

Team will look at a further event later in the year – dependent on the extent of the changes from AOSG. Sufficient notice to be given.

Any further support from us?

- Happy with current level of support