

## People and Society



This update contains information relevant to your subject and details of the support available to you.

We also publish updates on the new National Courses in the 'Updates and Announcements' section of the relevant [subject pages](#). You may find it useful to make regular use of our subject pages, where you will find support documents, answers to common questions, and links to other areas of interest. You can also sign up for 'My Alerts', SQA's e-mail update service, that notifies you whenever content you are interested in is added or updated on our website. Visit [www.sqa.org.uk/myalerts](http://www.sqa.org.uk/myalerts) to register.

**Angela Baird**  
Qualifications Manager

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## The Qualifications Team

Angela Baird  
Qualifications Manager

Melissa Queen  
Qualifications Officer

## Key messages from 2014–15

### Verification key messages

Key messages from round 2 of verification in session 2014–15 were published over the summer. They are available from the relevant [subject pages](#), where you can access them from the 'Verification and Course Reports' heading in the 'Assessment Support' section.

## Documents and assessment support materials

It is important that you read the full suite of documents for your Course, as well as those relating to assessment, and that you refer to the latest versions.

Information on documents and assessment support materials for National 1 to Advanced Higher can be found at [www.sqa.org.uk/supportdocuments](http://www.sqa.org.uk/supportdocuments)

### National 4 Added Value Unit

As we communicated in our May 2015 subject update, we updated some documents for National 4 People and Society for use in session 2015–2016. These updates were made in April and May 2015 and the following revisions were made:

The Unit assessment support pack for the National 4 Added Value Unit was updated in relation to Assessment Standard 1.5. The suggested responses in Column 4 of the Judging evidence table included reasons for the decisions or contrast/comparison being made. While the decision or contrast/comparison being made should relate to the evidence that the candidate has gathered, Assessment Standard 1.5 does not require the candidate to provide an explanation. The Unit assessment support pack has been updated to remove reasons from the suggested responses.

You can find more details of these revisions in the [May 2015 subject update](#).

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# Coming up in 2015–16

## Understanding Standards 2015–16

From the end of October 2015, we will publish further Understanding Standards packs for National 1 to Higher. These packs contain candidate evidence and commentaries for Unit assessment and internally assessed components of Course assessment.

From November 2015 to January 2016, we will hold subject-specific Understanding Standards events for teachers and lecturers. An Understanding Standards event for People and Society (National 3 and 4) will take place on the following date:

- 16 November 2015, Edinburgh

Materials from the recent Nominee training events will also be published on our website.

For more information, visit [www.sqa.org.uk/understandingstandards](http://www.sqa.org.uk/understandingstandards)

Details of the Understanding Standards materials for each subject are available from the [subject pages](#)

## Use of National 4 Added Value Units

You now have the option of developing your own National 4 Added Value Unit assessments for use with candidates.

Please note that this is not a requirement and you can continue to use SQA-produced Added Value Unit assessments. Most SQA-produced Added Value Unit assessments already allow considerable flexibility in the choice of a context for the assessment, while some provide a context that you can change.

If you choose to develop your own Added Value Unit assessment, we strongly advise submitting it to us for prior verification before using it with candidates.

Further information can be found at [www.sqa.org.uk/unitassessment](http://www.sqa.org.uk/unitassessment)

### Contact us

For centre enquiries, please contact our Customer Support Team:

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