



Arrangements for:

**Professional Development Award in
Commercial Fashion Design**

at SCQF level 7

Group Award Code: G9GY 47

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Acknowledgement

SQA acknowledges the valuable contribution that Scotland's colleges have made to the development of Higher National qualifications.

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1 Introduction

This is the Arrangements Document for the new Professional Development Award (PDA) in Commercial Fashion Design at SCQF level 7 which was validated in June 2009. It includes background information on the development of the award and its aims, details of its structure, and guidance on access and delivery.

Following the successful validation of the Higher National Certificates/Higher National Diplomas (HNCs/HNDs) in

- ◆ Fashion: Design and Production with Retail
- ◆ Fashion Technology and Manufacture with Design
- ◆ Fashion Design and Manufacture
- ◆ Textiles

a Qualifications Design Team (QDT) was formed to take forward the development of a suite of PDAs based on existing Higher National (HN) Units. PDAs are designed to develop and assess a defined set of skills and knowledge in specialist vocational areas. They can be made up of HN, Scottish Vocational Qualification (SVQ) or National Qualification (NQ) Units that have been credit-rated and levelled. The PDA in Commercial Fashion Design at SCQF level 7 has been developed under the revised SQA Design Principles for PDAs, a copy of which is attached as Appendix 1.

The QDT was also involved in the development of the other awards in this area. The full suite comprises PDAs in Fashion, in Design, and in Textiles. (Details of the full suite can be found at Appendix 2.)

The PDA in Commercial Fashion Design is a short award which, together with the related PDAs, will significantly extend the current portfolio of fashion awards offered by SQA.

2 Rationale for the Group Award

The rationale for the PDA in Commercial Fashion Design at SCQF level 7 is primarily based on the need to provide a short, flexible award for a wide range of people including those who:

- ◆ are currently employed/self employed and are not able to commit to a full-time award
- ◆ are interested in developing new skills for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) or personal development generally
- ◆ wish a taster before committing to a full HNC

The PDA in *Commercial Fashion Design* is a stand-alone award which will enable candidates to gain skills in operating computer software creatively, developing stylised fashion figures and producing design illustrations. Some candidates may attempt this PDA as a stepping-stone to further awards such as the HNC or HND in Fashion: Design and Production with Retail.

The PDA in Commercial Fashion Design has been designed to meet different specialisms and local market needs and its development coincided with significant changes in the clothing and textile industry — in particular the challenge of low cost competition from developing countries. The industry now requires a workforce which is both flexible and multi-skilled.

The new awards take account of the need/s:

- ◆ for qualifications with specialist provision accommodated within a flexible delivery
- ◆ for Units which allow for progression and meet the design principles and SCQF requirements
- ◆ for qualifications which link with and articulate to other awards
- ◆ of the target groups at which these awards are aimed

2.1 Progression routes/further opportunities

Although this award is not intended solely as a vehicle for progression, the diagram in section 5.4 illustrates some possible pathways and progression routes for candidates, and links between related awards.

Appendix 4 shows links between the Units making up the PDAs and the HNC/HND in Fashion: Design and Manufacture. It also shows the links to other related HNC/HNDs.

3 Aims of the Professional Development Award

3.1 General aims of the PDA

Each PDA has its own individual aims but they share some general aims. The general aims of the PDA in Commercial Fashion Design are to:

- ◆ develop knowledge and transferable skills such as planning and research skills
- ◆ focus on the development of the candidate's practical skills, knowledge and understanding, all of which which underpin performance in all stages of career development
- ◆ develop employment skills
- ◆ develop creative and technical skills
- ◆ support continuing professional development (CPD), so being ideal for workforce development
- ◆ provide candidates with a nationally recognised qualification
- ◆ provide progression opportunities to other related qualifications, for example HNC Fashion: Design and Manufacture
- ◆ enable progression within the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework

3.2 Specific aims of the PDA Commercial Fashion Design at SCQF level 7

In addition to the general aims of the suite of PDAs outlined in Part 1, the PDA in Commercial Fashion Design at SCQF level 7 has some specific aims which are detailed below.

The PDA in Commercial Fashion Design at SCQF level 7 will allow candidates to:

- 1 develop a logical and creative approach to designing and developing garments
- 2 research and analyse market requirements
- 3 devise a design concept suitable for garment manufacture
- 4 create a capsule collection of garment designs
- 5 explore digital and computer technology within the design process
- 6 present a design concept suitable for garment manufacture
- 7 create digital imagery for a given brief
- 8 use digital imaging software to create fashion storyboards

3.3 Target groups

The target groups for the PDA in Commercial Fashion Design at SCQF level 7 are:

- ◆ adult returners
- ◆ those who have completed college-devised National Certificate courses in fashion, art or design
- ◆ those in employment or self employment in fashion or a related industry/business
- ◆ those looking for CPD or personal development generally
- ◆ school leavers
- ◆ school candidates at S5/S6

3.4 Employment opportunities

The PDA in will develop candidates' technical skills and Core Skills. Completion of the PDA will enhance employment or self employment opportunities in illustration or design roles in the fashion sector.

4 Access to the Awards

Access is at the discretion of the centre. There should be no unnecessary barriers to entry and the PDA should be open to all candidates who have a realistic chance of achieving it. It would however be beneficial if the candidate had some prior knowledge or skills in basic drawing, communication and ICT at SCQF level 4.

Other useful qualifications/experience could be:

- ◆ National Certificate course in Fashion or a related area at SCQF level 5/6
- ◆ SVQ/NVQ level 2 or 3 in a related subject
- ◆ Other relevant Highers and Standard Grades
- ◆ Work experience in the fashion (or a related) industry
- ◆ Relevant prior knowledge and skills
- ◆ A portfolio of evidence

5 Award structure

The Commercial Fashion Design PDA is made up of existing Unit specifications.

5.1 G9GY 47 Commercial Fashion Design at SCQF level 7

Candidates require 3 credits (24 SCQF credit points) to achieve the award.

Unit title	Code	Mand/ Opt	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
Mandatory Unit					
Fashion: Commercial Design	F18W 34	M	16	7	2
Optional Units (candidates must select at least 1 credit)					
Digital Imaging	DV60 34	O	8	7	1
Fashion Design Using Computer Technology	F26V 34	O	8	7	1

Each Unit of the PDA aligns to all the general aims of the suite of PDAs. The following table shows how the specific aims of the award align to the Units in the award:

Unit Code	Unit title	Aim 1	Aim 2	Aim 3	Aim 4	Aim 5	Aim 6	Aim 7	Aim 8
F18W34	Fashion: Commercial Design	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
DV6034	Digital Imaging					✓		✓	✓
F26V34	Fashion Design Using Computer Technology	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓

5.2 Mapping information

The Units making up the PDA in Commercial Fashion Design have been mapped to the NOS developed by Skillfast-UK. The following table shows how the Units of the PDA align to the NOS.

Unit code	Unit name	SVQ/NVQ Unit Numbers
F18W 34	Fashion: Commercial Design	Textiles and Material Design: D6
DV60 34	Digital Imaging	Textiles and Material Design: D2, D3, D4
F26V 34	Fashion Design Using Computer Technology	Textiles and Material Design: D2, D3, D4

5.3 Articulation and credit transfer

The PDA in Commercial Fashion Design at SCQF level 7 is not intended solely as a vehicle for progression. However, the Units making up the PDA are also mandatory/optional Units within the noted HNC/HNDs:

Fashion: Commercial Design [HNC/HND Fashion: Design and Production with Retail; HND Fashion Design and Manufacture; HNC/HND Textiles]

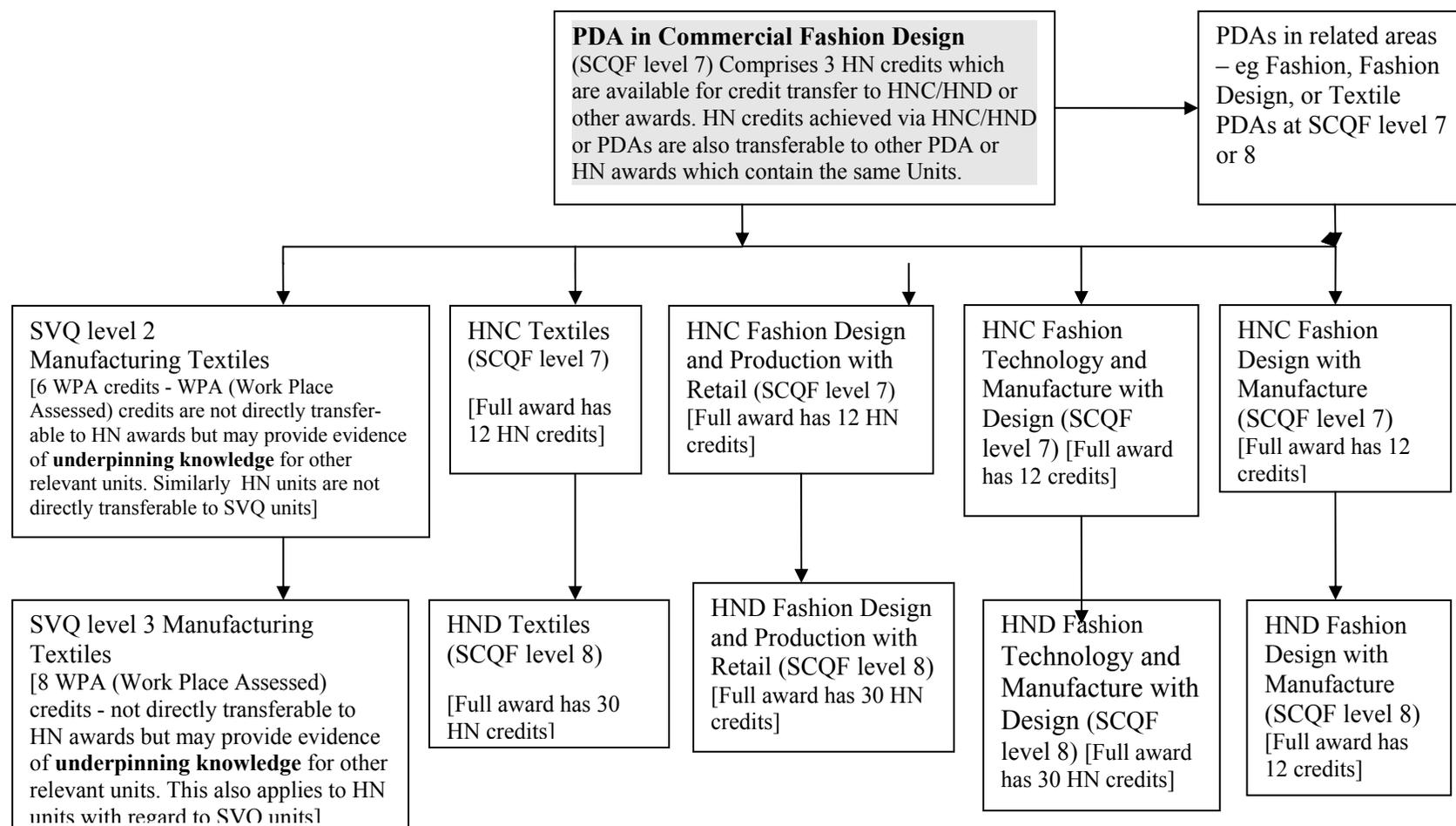
Digital Imaging [HNC/HND Textiles: HNC/HND Fashion: Design and Production with Retail]

Fashion Design Using Computer Technology [HNC/HND Fashion Design and Manufacture]

Candidates can, therefore, use the PDA as a stepping stone to the above HNC/HND or other related SQA awards.

5.4 Progression Routes and Further Opportunities

PDA G9GY 47: Commercial Fashion Design at SCQF level 7



6 Approaches to delivery and assessment

Overall the approach to delivery and assessment in this PDA is to integrate and develop the skills required by the fashion industry. This short course can be delivered by the following methods:

- ◆ Part time study on evening or day release
- ◆ Infill to HNC/HND courses
- ◆ Short full time courses

The award is made up of a small number of Units. Sequencing of Units would be dependent on the number of candidates undertaking the awards/infilling to HNC/HND awards. However, the 'Prior Knowledge and Skills' section of the Unit specification should be considered in the development of timetables.

6.1 Assessment Strategy

Overall the assessment strategy taken in these awards is integrative assessment. Where centres wish to integrate assessments between Units, they should clearly map where the Evidence Requirements of individual Units have been overtaken.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills are signposted in the Units and it is anticipated that they will be delivered within the vocational context of the group award. Advice on delivering Core Skills within the vocational context has been included in each Unit specification. Centres are advised to encourage good practice through retaining information on Core Skills development.

Some ways of encouraging integration of Core Skills are given below.

Where a 'design and make' project is undertaken, candidates could be encouraged to work out costs and time taken as an integral part of the project. This would develop skills in *Numeracy*.

When candidates select one design solution, they could be asked to explain why they have rejected the other alternatives. This would allow them to develop their oral *Communication* skills as well as their *Problem Solving* skills.

Extending *Information and Communication Technology* skills could be encouraged through use of the internet for research, integration of word processing and digital images, use of digital cameras to record work in progress and use of CAD and pattern development software currently recognised by industry.

As candidates will spend much of their time in a workshop environment, they should be encouraged to extend their *Working with Others* skills. Co-operation and communication are essential aspects of sharing specialist machinery and equipment and working in an area which has health and safety considerations to take into account. In this area of work, good housekeeping, eg with threads and waste materials and showing consideration for others, would also be considered important.

Further details on delivery and assessment are provided in all the Unit specifications.

There is also a range of assessment exemplars available from the secure section of the SQA website, which can be accessed via SQA co-ordinators in centres. A list of the available Assessment Exemplars is shown in Appendix 4. The table at appendix 4 also shows the links between the PDA Units and the following HNC/HNDs:

- ◆ Fashion: Design and Production with Retail
- ◆ Fashion Technology and Manufacture with Design
- ◆ Fashion Design and Manufacture
- ◆ Textiles

As shown in this table, there are opportunities available for candidates wishing to progress to the HNC/HNDs listed.

Although delivery through Open Learning may be available or suitable for some aspects of the PDAs, opportunities would be limited due to the number of workshop based subjects.

The Units contained in the PDA may be delivered as stand alone qualifications, or as part of another HN group award (eg the HND Fashion Design and Manufacture, HNC/HND Fashion Technology and Manufacture with Design or HNC/HND Textiles).

Where they are delivered as a PDA they provide a coherent, attractive and relevant programme which will equip candidates with the knowledge and skills needed to design and create a garment from start to finish. This should enhance candidates' employment and/or self employment opportunities in this area.

Details of the assessment tasks for each Unit making up the PDA is shown in the table below:

Unit title	Unit content, assessment and opportunities to develop Core Skills
Fashion: Commercial Design	<p>This Unit has been devised to enable you to research, plan and design a capsule fashion collection for a middle market fashion brand. It is primarily intended as an overview for candidates who take up employment as designers, buyers or merchandisers within the fashion and retail industry.</p> <p>The purpose of this Unit is to develop a creative and logical approach to fashion product development, to anticipate consumer demand and develop commercial garments for a specific target market and brand image. You will learn how to use the correct terminology when dealing with suppliers and retail customers. This will provide you with skills for your final presentation.</p> <p>Outcomes are designed to develop personal and vocational skills. Your tutor will be a facilitator and will expect you to take a high degree of responsibility in the investigation of the chosen market and fashion brand and in the development of solutions to meet the design brief. Learning new methods and developing new skills required for this Unit will be demanding but enjoyable too. Guidance will be given on how to structure and present your work throughout the Unit.</p> <p>In undertaking this Unit you will also have opportunities to develop the Core Skills of <i>Communication, Information and Communication Technology and Problem Solving</i>.</p>

Unit title	Unit content, assessment and opportunities to develop Core Skills
Digital Imaging	<p>This Unit will enable you to work with digital images effectively. It is designed to give you the skills to operate the appropriate software creatively, use input and output devices, save files in suitable formats and output your work in the manner required to meet a brief.</p> <p>Overall you will be expected to use the knowledge and skills from the Unit to enable you to produce creative digital images fit for purpose and gain a competency from which you can continue to develop your abilities and knowledge.</p> <p>In Outcome 1 you will create a minimum of four digital images. This could be through using vector and/or bitmapped software applications. You will also gain an understanding of colour modes, file sizes, and image resolution appropriate to different constraints. You will effectively use appropriate input devices to create digital imagery and identify appropriate output options for the given task. You will also analyse the advantages and disadvantages of vector and bitmapped based images. Your analysis may take the form of a short written test or by answering a set of oral questions.</p> <p>In Outcome 2 you will be required to select the appropriate file format, file resolution and colour modes that are required of the project brief/s that you have been set. You will also be required to save your digital imagery in an appropriate file format/s using suitable naming conventions and filing constructions. You will submit your work on an appropriate storage device which demonstrates that files have been saved in a suitable format, resolution, colour mode and size.</p> <p>In studying this Unit, you will have opportunities to develop the Core Skills of <i>Problem Solving</i> and <i>Information and Communication Technology</i> to SCQF level 6.</p>
Fashion Design Using Computer Technology	<p>This Unit is designed to introduce you to fashion design oriented software and to enable you to develop computer design techniques while working to a given fashion design brief. You will gain technical knowledge of fashion imaging software and be able to use the relevant applications and techniques to produce garment design concepts. You will be able to use input and output devices, save files in the correct format and produce final fashion visuals in digital format suitable for client presentation. You will develop software specific skills, which you will develop and build on throughout the Unit.</p> <p>Outcome 1 will concentrate on you developing garment designs to meet a given brief.</p> <p>Outcome 2 will develop these ideas using digital techniques to simulate fabric, pattern and texture.</p> <p>Outcome 3 will develop your designs and storyboard-formatting techniques.</p> <p>Your practical skills will be assessed by your being asked to satisfactorily create initial garment design sketches, develop these ideas and produce at least two final fashion storyboards presenting your solutions. You will also have opportunities to develop your Core Skills in <i>Problem Solving</i> and <i>Information and Communication Technology</i> to SCQF level 6 as you work through this Unit.</p>

6.2 Resources for Delivery

Centres will require specialist resources to deliver these awards. Resources should be in line with current industry practice. The following list is not exhaustive, but provides an indication of the type of equipment centres require to undertake the delivery of these awards.

Studio space which should include:

- ◆ Computers and appropriate specialist software
- ◆ A range of equipment required for digital imaging – eg scanners and printers
- ◆ A range of equipment suitable for producing images using traditional/manual techniques
- ◆ Screen printing equipment
- ◆ Books, internet, magazines

6.3 Progression Routes

The PDA in *Commercial Fashion Design* at SCQF level 7 is not intended solely as a vehicle for progression. However, the Units making up the PDA are also mandatory/optional Units within the noted HNC/HNDs.

Fashion: Commercial Design [HNC/HND Fashion: Design and Production with Retail; HND Fashion Design and Manufacture; HNC/HND Textiles]

Digital Imaging [HNC/HND Textiles: HNC/HND Fashion: Design and Production with Retail]

Fashion Design Using Computer Technology [HNC/HND Fashion Design and Manufacture]

Candidates can, therefore, use the PDA as a stepping stone to the above HNC/HNDs.

(See also the diagram at section 5.4.)

7 General information for centres

Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements.

Internal and external verification

All instruments of assessment used within this Group Award should be internally verified, using the appropriate policy within the centre and the guidelines set by SQA.

External verification will be carried out by SQA to ensure that internal assessment is within the national guidelines for these qualifications.

Further information on internal and external verification can be found in SQA's *Guide to Assessment and Quality Assurance for Colleges of Further Education* (www.sqa.org.uk).

8 General information for candidates

Professional Development Award (PDA) Commercial Fashion Design (G9GY 47)

The overall aim of the award is to develop your knowledge and skills to enable you to design a capsule fashion collection for a middle market fashion brand and to provide you with an enjoyable learning experience.

The award has been developed through research involving employers, centres, and potential candidates of the qualification. It contains knowledge and skills as specified by the Sector Skills Council (SSC), Skillfast-UK, through its National Occupational Standards (NOS). An SSC is an employer-led, independent organisation that covers a specific sector across the UK. Skillfast-UK covers the fashion and textiles sector. The Units making up this PDA have been mapped to the NOS developed by Skillfast-UK.

The PDA in Commercial Fashion Design is designed to allow you to:

- ◆ develop a logical and creative approach to designing and developing garments
- ◆ research and analyse market requirements
- ◆ devise a design concept suitable for garment manufacture
- ◆ create a capsule collection of garment designs
- ◆ explore digital and computer technology within the design process
- ◆ present a design concept suitable for garment manufacture
- ◆ create digital imagery for a given brief
- ◆ use digital imaging software to create fashion storyboards

The PDA is made up of a small number of Units which facilitate these aims. Details of the Units making up the award are shown in the table below.

To achieve the award, you will need to successfully complete the mandatory Unit. In addition, you will need to complete a further one optional Unit. The overall SCQF credits points needed to achieve the award is 24. One credit point relates to a notional 10 hours of learning and assessment.

Each Unit contains a main subject area and is further broken down into topics identified as Outcomes within each Unit. Each Outcome comprises of knowledge and skills associated with each topic.

Structure of the PDA in Commercial Fashion Design SCQF level 7 — 24 SCQF credit points needed to achieve the award

Unit title	Mand/ Opt	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
Mandatory Unit			
Fashion: Commercial Design	M	16	7
Optional Units (you must select at least 1 Unit)			
Digital Imaging	O	8	7
Fashion Design Using Computer Technology	O	8	7

Assessment for the award could take a variety of forms, such as, producing a portfolio of work including evidence of researching and identifying the market requirement of a middle

market fashion brand, planning, devising and presenting a design concept suitable for garment manufacture.

The table below provides you with information on the content and the type of assessment that may be used for the Units making up the award. It also highlights opportunities for developing Core Skills.

Unit title	Unit content, assessment and opportunities to develop Core Skills
Fashion: Commercial Design	<p>This Unit has been devised to enable you to research, plan and design a capsule fashion collection for a middle market fashion brand. It is primarily intended as an overview for candidates who take up employment as designers, buyers or merchandisers within the fashion and retail industry.</p> <p>The purpose of this Unit is to develop a creative and logical approach to fashion product development, to anticipate consumer demand and develop commercial garments for a specific target market and brand image. You will learn how to use the correct terminology when dealing with suppliers and retail customers. This will provide you with skills for your final presentation.</p> <p>Outcomes are designed to develop personal and vocational skills. Your tutor will be a facilitator and will expect you to take a high degree of responsibility in the investigation of the chosen market and fashion brand and in the development of solutions to meet the design brief. Learning new methods and developing new skills required for this Unit will be demanding but enjoyable too. Guidance will be given on how to structure and present your work throughout the Unit.</p> <p>In undertaking this Unit you will also have opportunities to develop the Core Skills of <i>Communication, Information and Communication Technology</i> and <i>Problem Solving</i>.</p>
Digital Imaging	<p>This Unit will enable you to work with digital images effectively. It is designed to give you the skills to operate the appropriate software creatively, use input and output devices, save files in suitable formats and output your work in the manner required to meet a brief.</p> <p>Overall you will be expected to use the knowledge and skills from the Unit to enable you to produce creative digital images fit for purpose and gain a competency from which you can continue to develop your abilities and knowledge.</p> <p>In Outcome 1 you will create a minimum of four digital images. This could be through using vector and/or bitmapped software applications. You will also gain an understanding of colour modes, file sizes, and image resolution appropriate to different constraints. You will effectively use appropriate input devices to create digital imagery and identify appropriate output options for the given task. You will also analyse the advantages and disadvantages of vector and bitmapped based images. Your analysis may take the form of a short written test or by answering a set of oral questions.</p> <p>In Outcome 2 you will be required to select the appropriate file format, file resolution and colour modes that are required of the project brief/s that you have been set. You will also be required to save your digital imagery in an appropriate file format/s using suitable naming conventions and filing constructions. You will submit your work on an</p>

Unit title	Unit content, assessment and opportunities to develop Core Skills
	<p>appropriate storage device which demonstrates that files have been saved in a suitable format, resolution, colour mode and size.</p> <p>In studying this Unit, you will have opportunities to develop the Core Skills of <i>Problem Solving</i> and <i>Information and Communication Technology</i> to SCQF level 6.</p>
Fashion Design Using Computer Technology	<p>This Unit is designed to introduce you to fashion design oriented software and to enable you to develop computer design techniques while working to a given fashion design brief. You will gain technical knowledge of fashion imaging software and be able to use the relevant applications and techniques to produce garment design concepts. You will be able to use input and output devices, save files in the correct format and produce final fashion visuals in digital format suitable for client presentation. You will develop software specific skills, which you will develop and build on throughout the Unit.</p> <p>Outcome 1 will concentrate on you developing garment designs to meet a given brief.</p> <p>Outcome 2 will develop these ideas using digital techniques to simulate fabric, pattern and texture.</p> <p>Outcome 3 will develop your designs and storyboard-formatting techniques.</p> <p>Your practical skills will be assessed by you being asked to satisfactorily create initial garment design sketches, develop these ideas and produce at least two final fashion storyboards presenting your solutions.</p> <p>You will also have opportunities to develop your Core Skills in <i>Problem Solving</i> and <i>Information and Communication Technology</i> to SCQF level 6 as you work through this Unit.</p>

The PDA in Commercial Fashion Design at SCQ level 7 is not intended solely as a vehicle for progression. However, the Units making up the PDA are also mandatory/optional Units within the noted HNC/HNDs:

Fashion: Commercial Design [HNC/HND Fashion: Design and Production with Retail; HND Fashion Design and Manufacture; HNC/HND Textiles]

Digital Imaging [HNC/HND Textiles; HNC/HND Fashion: Design and Production with Retail]

Fashion Design Using Computer Technology [HNC/HND Fashion Design and Manufacture]

Your tutor will be able to advise you of the progression opportunities to these HNC/HNDs and of other progression opportunities open to you.

9 Appendices

Appendix 1: Design Principles of PDAs

Appendix 2: The full suite of PDAs – titles and codes

Appendix 3: Related National Occupational Standards (NOS)

Appendix 4: Mapping of Units in the Fashion Design PDAs to related HNC/HNDs

Appendix 5: Summary of Market Research

Appendix 6: Glossary of terms

Appendix 1 Design Principles for Professional Development Awards

1 Revised design principles

Professional Development Awards:

- ◆ will be available at SCQF levels 6–12
- ◆ at SCQF level 6 will be made up of Units with a minimum credit value of 12 SCQF credit points
- ◆ at SCQF levels 7–12 will be made up of a minimum credit value of 16 SCQF credit points
- ◆ will be made up of at least two Units
- ◆ will have at least half the SCQF credit points will be at the level of the Group Award
- ◆ will be made up of mandatory and/or optional Units which reflect the title of the Group Award
- ◆ will be aligned to National Occupational Standards, or other professional body standards, as appropriate to the Group Award area

2 Main changes to PDAs

There are four main changes to PDAs. These are:

- ◆ All PDAs and their component Units will be credit rated against SCQF.
- ◆ PDAs will have a minimum number of SCQF credits and be made up of at least two Units.
- ◆ There will be 7 distinct levels ranging from SCQF level 6 – 12.
- ◆ There will be new titles for all revised PDAs, which will reflect the vocational context and the SCQF level of the Group Award. Thus revised PDAs will be titled ‘Professional Development Award in XXXX XX at SCQF level X’. For example, ‘Professional Development Award in Enterprise at SCQF level 8’.

NB Revised PDAs will be certificated under the new title from January 2007.

3 Additional information relating to revised design principles

- ◆ PDAs can comprise HN, NQ and Workplace assessed Units
- ◆ All Units will be validated and credit rated by SQA.
- ◆ PDAs can have either mandatory and optional Units or all mandatory Units or all optional Units. The choice of structure must reflect the title and aim of the award and this will be checked at validation. For example, if an award comprised solely of optional Units, it would have to be shown how each choice of optional Units provided the skills and knowledge outlined in the aims of the Group Award.
- ◆ It will be possible to have PDAs with the same vocational context at different SCQF levels. However, each Group Award must have distinct aims that are commensurate with the level of the PDA and there would need to be a separate need and demand for each level.
- ◆ PDAs may also be embedded within another qualification such as an HNC or HND. Similarly, in these cases, a separate rationale, aims, purpose and structure must be given for the PDA and this must be supported by market research (although validation may take place at the same time as the HNC/HND).

Appendix 2 The full suite of NPAs in Textiles, Fashion and Design – Titles and codes

Note – Mandatory Units are shown in **bold**.

There are 6 PDAs in Textiles as follows:

Award code	PDA title	Units making up the PDA	SCQF level	SCQF Credit Points in PDA	SQA Credits in PDA
G9F7 47	Textile Accessories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Textile Accessory: An Introduction ◆ Textile Techniques: An Introduction ◆ Millinery: An Introduction ◆ Surface Decoration for Textiles: An Introduction 	7	24	3
G9F8 48	Textile Accessories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Textile Accessory: Advanced OR ◆ Textile Techniques: Advanced ◆ Millinery: Advanced ◆ Surface Decoration for Textiles: Advanced 	8	32	4
G9F4 47	Fine Art Textiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Fine Art Textiles: An Introduction ◆ Surface Decoration for Textiles: An Introduction ◆ Observational Drawing ◆ Textiles for Interiors: An Introduction 	7	24	3
G9F5 48	Fine Art Textiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Fine Art Textiles: Advanced Techniques ◆ Surface Decoration for Textiles: Advanced ◆ Observational Drawing Portfolio ◆ Textiles for Interiors: Advanced Techniques 	8	24	3
G9F6 47	Printed Textiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Observational Drawing ◆ Printed Textiles: An Introduction 	7	24	3
G9F9 47	Textile Design for Garments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Observational Drawing ◆ Textile Techniques: An Introduction ◆ Concept Garment Design: An Introduction 	7	24	3

There are 5 PDAs in Fashion, as follows:

Award code	PDA title	Units making up the PDA	SCQF level	SCQF Credit Points in PDA	SQA Credits in PDA
G9GN 48	Tailoring Techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Hand Craft Tailoring ◆ Pattern Development and Fitting Tailored Garments 	8	24	3
G9GP 48	Design and Production: Fashion Collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Creative Garment Design and Manufacture: Advanced ◆ Manufacturing a Garment Collection 	8	32	4
G9GR 48	Design and Production: Occasion Wear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Design and Manufacture a Bridal or Eveningwear Garment ◆ Sewing and Finishing for Garment Development: Advanced Techniques ◆ Textile Techniques: An Introduction ◆ Corset Production: An Introduction 	8	32	4
G9GT 47	Contemporary Fashion Corsetry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Corset Production: An Introduction ◆ Textile Techniques: An Introduction ◆ Surface Decoration for Textiles: An Introduction 	7	16	2
G9GV 47	Garment Design and Production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Designing and Producing a Fashion Garment: An Introduction OR ◆ Fashion Technology: Design and Produce an Outfit ◆ Clothing: Production, Trimming and Finishing Techniques ◆ Creative Garment Design Development: An Introduction ◆ Sewing and Finishing Techniques for Garment Development ◆ Couture Techniques: An Introduction 	7	24	3

There are 4 PDAs in Fashion Design, as follows:

Award code	PDA title	Units making up the PDA	SCQF level	SCQF Credit Points in PDA	SQA Credits in PDA
G9GX 47	Pattern Production Skills	ANY 3 credits from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Garment Pattern Construction: Blocks, Manipulation and Production ◆ Fashion Technology: Pattern Drafting and Development ◆ Drape and Flat Pattern Making: Basic Techniques ◆ Pattern Development for the Fashion Industry 	7	24	3
G9GY 47	Commercial Fashion Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Fashion: Commercial Design ◆ Digital Imaging ◆ Fashion Design Using Computer Technology 	7	24	3
G9H0 47	Fashion Illustration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Fashion Illustration: An Introduction ◆ Digital Imaging ◆ Fashion Design Using Computer Technology ◆ Fashion Design: Producing Fashion Illustrations ◆ Garment Manufacture: An Introduction to Working Drawings 	7	16	2
G9H1 48	Complex Pattern Production Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Complex Pattern Development and Customisation ◆ Pattern Cutting: Complex Skills ◆ Grading for the Fashion Industry ◆ CAD: Pattern Development 	8	24	3

Appendix 3 Related National Occupational Standards (NOS)

Apparel Manufacturing Technology

Ref	Title
HS1	Health, safety and security at work
AMTech1	Identify and agree the construction of garments to be produced
AMTech2	Monitor compliance with requirements in garment construction
AMTech3	Create and maintain technical documents and records in garment construction
AMTech4	Contribute to the production of outsourced apparel products.
AMTech5	Assess and develop given apparel designs.
AMTech6	Produce block and graded patterns for apparel products
AMTech7	Produce prototype/sample patterns and assess for fit
AMTech8	Produce lay plans for apparel products.
AMTech9	Make up apparel products from patterns.
AMTech10	Assemble garments for fitting.
AMTech11	Fit and re-cut garments to customer requirements
AMTech12	Complete garment to customer specification.
AMTech13	Construct and adapt patterns to customer requirements.
AMTech14	Lay up, mark-in and cut materials.
AMTech15	Solve quality issues for sample apparel production
AMTech16	Produce sample garments for manufacture.
AMTech17	Provide technical feedback on sample garments.
AMTech18	Handle and measure sample garments to ensure compliance with requirements
AMTech19	Investigate markets, materials and styles.
AMTech20	Produce final apparel product specification.
AMTech21	Assess customer requirements and take measurements.
AMTech22	Plan apparel production schedule.
AMTech26	Make up and assemble apparel samples
A2 (SK1)	Manage your own resources and professional development.
A1 (SK2)	Assess candidates using a range of methods.
A2	Assess candidates' performance through observation.
MSP1	Look after the work area in manufacturing sewn products.
MSP2	Maintain the quality of production working with textiles, leather and materials.
B1	Develop and implement operational plans for your area of responsibility of quality systems.
B6	Provide leadership in your area of responsibility.
B8	Ensure compliance with legal, regulatory, ethical and social requirements.
C4	Maximise product sales in a retail environment.
D2	Develop productive working relationships with colleagues and stakeholders.
D3	Recruit, select and keep colleagues.
F3	Manage business processes.
F12	Improve organisational performance.
L11	Enable learning through demonstrations and instruction.
L12	Enable individual learning through coaching.

Bespoke Cutting & Tailoring

Ref	Title
HS1	Health, safety and security at work
C1	Prepare materials and trimmings for bespoke tailoring
C2	Lay patterns, mark-in and cut cloth for bespoke tailoring
C4	Construct patterns for bespoke tailoring
C&T1	Carry out bespoke selling
T1	Make handcraft/bespoke trousers, waistcoats or skirts: basting
T2	Make handcraft/bespoke trousers, waistcoats or skirts: adjustments and pockets
T3	Make handcraft/bespoke trousers, waistcoats or skirts: completion and finishing
T4	Make handcraft/bespoke coat: Baste making
T5	Make handcraft/bespoke coats: forward making
T7	Make handcraft/bespoke coats: finishing and pressing

Manufacturing Sewn Products

Ref	Title
HS1	Health, safety and security at work
MSP1	Look after the work area in manufacturing sewn products
MSP2	Maintain the quality of production working with textiles, leather and materials
MSP3	Cutting materials for manufacturing sewn products
MSP4	Carry out the sewing process
MSP5	Carry out the tape sealing process in the production of clothing and related items
MSP6	Carry out hand pressing in the sewing process
MSP7	Dyeing fabric
MSP8	Dyeing sewn garments
MSP9	Rotary fabric printing
MSP10	Screenprinting individual items/garments
MSP11	Carry out sewn product manufacturing operations

Textiles & Material Design

Ref	Title
HS1	Health, safety and security at work
D1	Research design information and ideas for textiles and materials using a range of techniques
D2	Develop and communicate design ideas for textiles and materials
D3	Develop design responses for textiles and materials to meet agreed requirements
D4	Contribute to producing detailed designs for textiles and materials
D5	Contribute to realising design prototypes for textiles and materials
D6	Contribute to realising final textile and material design
D7	Contribute to selling and promoting textile and material designs and design services
D8	Undertake textile and material design freelance work
D9	Clarify textile and material design briefs and research information
D10	Develop alternative textile and material design ideas
D11	Research design trends and developments in materials and technology
D12	Develop, produce and present design responses
D13	Plan and manage design work
D14	Realise design prototypes
D15	Plan and contribute to the realisation of final textile and material design

Appendix 4 Mapping of Units in the Fashion Design PDAs to related HNC/HNDs

Mapping of PDA Units and HNCs and HNDs											
Assessment Exemplar	Groupings	Credit	Core/ Opt in PDA	G8JJ 15	G8JL 16	G8NX 15	G8NY 16	G8PV 15	G8PT 16	G8XW 15	G8XX 16
				HNC Textiles	HND Textiles	HNC Fashion Technology and Manufacture with Design	HND Fashion Technology and Manufacture with Design	HNC Fashion Design and Production with Retail	HND Fashion Design and Production with Retail	HNC Fashion Design and Manufacture	HND Fashion Design and Manufacture
	Fashion Illustration SCQF level 7	min 2									
	Fashion Illustration: An Introduction	1	Mand							Mand	Mand
Yes	Digital Imaging	1	Opt	Mand	Mand			Opt	Opt		
	Fashion Design using Computer Technology	1	Opt							Mand	Mand
	Fashion Design: Producing Fashion Illustrations	1	Opt			Mand	Mand				
	Garment Manufacture: An Introduction to Working Drawings	1	Opt				Mand			Opt	Opt
	Commercial Fashion Design SCQF level 7	3 total									
Yes	Fashion: Commercial Design	2	Mand	Opt	Opt			Mand	Mand		Mand
Yes	Digital Imaging	1	Opt	Mand	Mand			Opt	Opt		
	Fashion Design using Computer Technology	1	Opt							Mand	Mand

Mapping of PDA Units and HNCs and HNDs											
Assessment Exemplar	Groupings	Credit	Core/ Opt in PDA	G8JJ 15	G8JL 16	G8NX 15	G8NY 16	G8PV 15	G8PT 16	G8XW 15	G8XX 16
				HNC Textiles	HND Textiles	HNC Fashion Technology and Manufacture with Design	HND Fashion Technology and Manufacture with Design	HNC Fashion Design and Production with Retail	HND Fashion Design and Production with Retail	HNC Fashion Design and Manufacture	HND Fashion Design and Manufacture
	Pattern Production Skills SCQF level 7	min 3									
Yes	Garment Pattern Construction: Blocks, Manipulations & Production	2	Opt					Mand	Mand		
	Fashion Technology: Pattern Drafting and Development	1	Opt			Mand	Mand			Mand	Mand
	Drape and Flat Pattern Making: Basic Techniques	1	Opt			Opt	Mand	Opt	Opt	Mand	Mand
	Pattern Development for the Fashion Industry	1	Opt			Mand	Mand			Mand	Mand
	Complex Pattern Production Skills SCQF level 8	min 3									
	Complex Pattern Development and Customisation	1	Mand				Mand	Opt	Mand		

Mapping of PDA Units and HNCs and HNDs											
				G8JJ 15	G8JL 16	G8NX 15	G8NY 16	G8PV 15	G8PT 16	G8XW 15	G8XX 16
Assessment Exemplar	Groupings	Credit	Core/ Opt in PDA	HNC Textiles	HND Textiles	HNC Fashion Technology and Manufacture with Design	HND Fashion Technology and Manufacture with Design	HNC Fashion Design and Production with Retail	HND Fashion Design and Production with Retail	HNC Fashion Design and Manufacture	HND Fashion Design and Manufacture
	Pattern Cutting: Complex Skills	1	Mand		Opt						Mand
	Grading for the Fashion Industry	1	Opt				Mand	Opt	Opt		
	CAD: Pattern Development	1	Opt				Mand	Opt	Opt	Opt	Opt

Appendix 5 Summary of Market Research

Market research carried out consisted of primary and secondary research. Primary research was conducted with colleges, employers and those candidate currently undertaking HNC/Ds in related subjects. This took two main forms:

- ◆ Meetings and discussions with representatives from seven centres currently offering HNC/HNDs in Fashion, Textiles and Design.
- ◆ Distribution of questionnaires to employers, to candidates currently undertaking SQA awards in Fashion Textiles and Design and to centres.

The proposed structures of the new awards stem largely from the discussions among centre representatives. This, together with responses in the questionnaires from 10 centres, provides evidence of centre commitment and indicates that the proposals meet the requirements of centres.

A total of 72 responses were received — 59 candidates; three employers and 10 centres. The responses from employers was very disappointing, however, responses from candidates showed that only 8.8% of candidates' primary motivation for embarking on a PDA would be for progression to employment. By far the greatest motivation would be for personal interest (45.5%) or progression to HNC/HND (31.6%).

The responses to the questionnaires were very positive — 100% of all centres and 66% of employers responding agreed that there would be demand for the PDAs.

The questionnaire also sought feedback on the content of the various PDAs, the proposed structures and the aims of the awards. Respondents were strongly in favour of the proposals, agreed with the aims, and endorsed the approach taken.

Centres and employers were asked to respond on the need for the PDAs to link to National Occupational Standards (NOS). 92% of the respondents agreed that it was quite important/very important that there were links to the NOS. The NOS for the new awards are shown in Appendix 3 of this document.

Supportive comments from respondents included: *'There is an increasing focus on accessories within the fashion industry, so a wider availability of courses and qualifications in this area would be great,'* and *'It would be an excellent award for CPD for Home Economic teachers to promote fashion within their departments and to enhance their portfolio of skills and gather ideas to take back to the classroom.'*

Secondary research was based on the scrutiny of general employment reports and specific sector reports for the clothing industry.

Skillfast-UK's *Skills Needs Assessment for the Apparel, Footwear and Textiles Sector in Scotland*¹ indicates that the sector continues to be an important contributor to the economy of Scotland with 1,400 establishments employing around 30,000 people. However, the sector continues to undergo a process of radical change driven by the globalisation of production and markets, rapidly changing consumer tastes and an increasing focus on high value products and processes among domestic firms. The report highlights the need for the sector to respond to the challenge of low cost competition, particularly from developing countries, for its future success. Strategies being adopted by firms include: product differentiation through branding and design, fast turn manufacturing, overseas sourcing, etc.

¹ A skills needs assessment for the apparel, footwear and textiles sector in Scotland, December 2005.

The report also highlights the lack of learning provision covering sector-specific technical subjects and shows the following skills gaps in terms of its workforce:

- ◆ Garment assembly roles — half of the establishments with recruitment needs identified a problem with sewing machinists. A diverse range of specialise job roles are subsumed within this occupational category including jobs that involve hand craft as well as routine machinist skills.
- ◆ Pattern cutter/maker
- ◆ Dry cleaner, launderer, presser
- ◆ Leather process operative
- ◆ Knitter

In terms of generic skills, the following were identified:

- ◆ General management and supervisory skills
- ◆ Information technology skills
- ◆ Quality assurance

The suite of PDAs proposed by SQA for Fashion, Design and Textiles may assist in the above. Many of the PDAs include sewing skills, pattern construction/cutting and IT. In addition, SQA has created a number of small PDAs in Management including quality assurance.

Another report by Skillfast-UK on the impact of the economic downturn² showed qualifications reform to be a priority. The development of targeted, bitesize chunks of training, supported by a flexible funding system was seen to be critical. The PDAs in Fashion are small flexible awards which could meet this need.

*The Demand for and Use of Skills in the Modern Economy*³ an *Expert Briefing* Report produced by Professor Green for Futureskills Scotland, indicated that the number of higher skilled occupations has been growing faster than lower skilled occupations and this growth is expected to continue in the future, with problem solving skills, literacy skills and communication skills attracting bigger financial rewards. The report also identified the importance of three types of skills for employability:

- ◆ broad skills, which concern the competence of staff to do the job
- ◆ technical skills, which are occupational-specific skills needed to carry out particular jobs and
- ◆ generic skills, which are needed for a wide range of jobs.

The PDAs in Textiles focus on the technical skills. However, there are many opportunities to develop generic skills, for example, working with others.

² Impact of the economic downturn on the UK fashion and textiles sector and potential interventions (January 2009)

³ Expert Briefing: The Demand for and Use of Skills in a Modern Economy (2005) Futureskills Scotland

Appendix 6 Glossary of terms

SCQF: This stands for the Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework, which is a new way of speaking about qualifications and how they inter-relate. We use SCQF terminology throughout this guide to refer to credits and levels. For further information on the SCQF visit the SCQF website at www.scqf.org.uk

SCQF credit points: One HN credit is equivalent to 8 SCQF credit points. This applies to all HN Units, irrespective of their level.

SCQF levels: The SCQF covers 12 levels of learning. HN Units will normally be at levels 6–9. Graded Units will be at level 7 and 8.

Subject Unit: Subject Units contain vocational/subject content and are designed to test a specific set of knowledge and skills.

Graded Unit: Graded Units assess candidates' ability to integrate what they have learned while working towards the Units of the Group Award. Their purpose is to add value to the Group Award, making it more than the sum of its parts, and to encourage candidates to retain and adapt their skills and knowledge.

Dedicated Unit to cover Core Skills: This is a non-subject Unit that is written to cover one or more particular Core Skills.

Embedded Core Skills: This is where the development of a Core Skill is incorporated into the Unit and where the Unit assessment also covers the requirements of Core Skill assessment at a particular level.

Signposted Core Skills: This refers to the opportunities to develop a particular Core Skill at a specified level that lie outwith automatic certification.

Qualification Design Team: The QDT works in conjunction with a Qualification Manager/Development Manager to steer the development of the HNC/HND from its inception/revision through to validation. The group is made up of key stakeholders representing the interests of centres, employers, universities and other relevant organisations.

Consortium-devised HNCs and HNDs are those developments or revisions undertaken by a group of centres in partnership with SQA.

Specialist single centre and specialist collaborative devised HNCs and HNDs are those developments or revisions led by a single centre or small group of centres who provide knowledge and skills in a specialist area. Like consortium-devised HNCs and HNDs, these developments or revisions will also be supported by SQA.