



# NQ Verification 2014–15 Key Messages Round 1

01

## Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	People and Society
Verification event/visiting information	Event
Date published:	March 2015

### National Courses/Units verified:

National 4: Added Value Unit

02

## Section 2: Comments on assessment

### Assessment approaches

During verification the following examples of good practice were observed:

Some centres had made good use of the candidate instructions for the National 4 Added Value Unit to support candidates with planning and structuring their write-up. These instructions are on SQA's secure website.

Where centres provided their internal verification policy and checklists for the Unit assessments completed, this allowed verifiers to check assessment approaches more easily.

For the National 4 Added Value assignment, one centre had clearly given candidates personalisation and choice in their chosen topic and in their method and structure for presenting their information. This was good to see.

### Action points

- ◆ Centres aiming to provide a helpful structure for the candidates to complete for the Added Value Unit write-up should make them aware of what they need to do to pass the Assessment Standards. However, candidates should not be given a detailed structure to follow since they are being assessed on presenting their information in Assessment Standard 1.6.

- ◆ It would be helpful for centres to encourage candidates to reference the two sources they have chosen in their write up.
- ◆ Centres should take care not to over-assess in the Added Value Unit by making candidates compare and contrast as well as make a decision for Assessment Standard 1.5.
- ◆ Centres that are unsure about internal verification procedures should refer to the Internal Verification toolkit ([www.sqa.org.uk/IVtoolkit](http://www.sqa.org.uk/IVtoolkit)). This gives meaningful guidance and references.

## Assessment judgements

During verification the following examples of good practice were observed:

Most centres made sound judgements of candidate evidence against the appropriate Assessment Standard.

When assessors mark candidates' work to show where the candidate has achieved the Assessment Standard it allows verifiers to see assessment judgements more easily.

Cross-marking of candidates' work helped to ensure assessment judgements were more reliable.

### Action points

- ◆ If oral discussions are taking place to supplement a written assessment, these must be evidenced. This could be something as simple as writing down what was discussed. Otherwise the verifiers do not have enough information to verify centre judgements.

03

## Section 3: General comments

The following comments are intended as a guide to centres on future practice.

Round 1 of verification is for Unit Assessments at National 3 and National 4 and Round 2 of verification is for the Added Value Unit.

Centres are asked to advise candidates that if they are using their jotter notes as a source of information, they should not just copy or lift this information straight from their jotter but instead put it into their own words.