



Higher National Qualifications

And

Scottish Vocational Qualifications

Senior Verifier Report

2007

Subject: Plumbing 177

Sector Panel or SSC: Summit Skills

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on verification which has taken place within Higher National and Scottish Vocational Qualifications in this subject.

SVQ AWARDS

TITLES/LEVELS OF SVQ AWARDS VERIFIED

Plumbing Level 3 G77H

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

General comments:

Candidates across the centres continue to produce evidence of a standard that is acceptable for certification of the award. Due to the volume of external verification small discrepancies were picked up but easily resolved and did not present any difficulties.

Greater emphasis in satisfying the requirements of the Sector Skills Council (SSC) may have to be highlighted more, eg setting out for inspection 'on site record of work' and 'Employer Declaration' documents and emphasising of these. In addition there appears with some centres slight confusion as to the relationship with the Training and Assessment Units (TAUs) and the National Occupational Standards matrix.

The volume of assessment within the award still causes concern which impacts in various ways (a) more time is required to organise and administer numerous assessments (b) which in turn requires additional marking, recording and internal verification. There were indications from the reports that time was tight in these areas.

Parts of the SVQ programme are still developing eg the electrical unit and the course for plumbing lecturers; the assessment bank being produced by SQA.

In general centres performed well in meeting the requirements of the award.

Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

The external verification process is more efficient and runs smoothly when a centre has an effective administration and IV system in place. This was evident in many centres. It was noted in several reports (from staff interviews) that time for internal verification is difficult to find, and that time spent on the assessment process is excessive.

Comments were made about the good quality of teaching and learning materials; this obviously has an impact on the assessment process. Perhaps this is an area in which centres could share good practice and development.