



**Higher National Qualifications**

**And**

**Scottish Vocational Qualifications**

**Senior Verifier Report**

**2007**

**Subject: Psychology**

**Sector Panel or SSC: Social Sciences**

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.

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## HIGHER NATIONAL UNITS

### FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

#### General comments:

Psychology A	DP43 34	D610 34	D7J6 34
Psychology B	DP44 34	D611 34	D7J7 34
Psychology C	DP45 35	D612 35	D7J8 35
Psychology D	DP46 35		D7J9 35
Research and Methodology	A6V5 34		
Client Psychology & Communication			D4EC 04

In the main Centres provided paperwork that was well laid out, clear and helpful. There is an increase in understanding of requirements of Units and good preparation of candidates evident in their responses.

#### Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

It was good to see evidence of robust Internal Verification procedures in place in Centres.

Good practice was evident in a number of Centres giving positive written feedback with suggestions for improvement as well as identifying strengths. Specific comments related to the Core Skill of Communication adding to the development of candidates.

Checklists detailing knowledge and skills to be covered were available in most centres. This was helpful for verification purposes.

#### Areas for development

As Centres move on to the new versions of the HN awards attention should be paid to requirements of the new specifications, in particular, the 'closed book' nature of the new Units and also the different topic choices for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

Centres should develop candidates' application of referencing in the research investigation. It is essential to 'reference' rather than just provide a bibliography.

In the Client psychology Unit the concept of 'conditioning' is often poorly explained by candidates. Also, an observation checklist in Outcome 4 is required – some Centres did not provide one and had to resubmit. This Unit continues to give concern.