NQ Verification 2017–18
Key Messages Round 1

01 ▶ Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	**Care**
Verification event/visiting information	**Postal**
Date published:	**March 2018**

National Units verified:

H218 75	SCQF level 5	Human Development and Behaviour
H12A 75	SCQF level 5	Social Influences
H21C 75	SCQF level 5	Values and Principles

02 ▶ Section 2: Comments on assessment

This report has been produced following the first round of verification activity. It is hoped that this report will help to inform and improve centres' approaches to assessing candidates and the quality assurance process.

Assessment approaches

The majority of centres that have adapted the unit assessment support package have done so appropriately and provided candidates with clear and concise requirements and excellent assessment choices. Clear assessment guidance is important for candidates.

The assessment tasks are clearly laid out and give the candidates an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding. The opportunity for candidates to submit evidence in a range of options which reflects the interests of the candidate rather than being directed to produce a report allows for personalisation and choice. This should be encouraged for good practice.

The assessment standards were always clearly identifiable within the instruments of assessment. This helped the candidates to monitor their progress and enabled assessors to judge when candidates have met the assessment standards.

Some centres have been too directive in their assessment instructions, removing candidate choice. Also, there were some inconsistencies in these instructions which candidates would find confusing.

In summary, where centres adapt the unit assessment support packages, they should provide clear and accurate information for their candidates. The assessments must cover all the assessment standards and provide the candidate with personalisation and choice. Information on judging evidence or exemplar answers are useful tools for ensuring reliability and validity in approach.

Judgements

Centres provided documentation to show candidates have been given clear, constructive and positive comments.

Centres have ensured assessment judgements are in line with national standards.

In summary centres ensured their assessment decisions were accurate and covered all the assessment standards. Feedback sheets which include assessor and internal verifier comments enabled the candidate to gain feedback and monitor their progress.

03 ▶ Section 3: General comments

Internal verification

All centres provided evidence of internal verification and there were examples of effective use of well-designed feedback forms that identified action points for the assessors. There was also good evidence of thorough internal verification processes where internal verifiers had read all candidates' submissions and provided comprehensive feedback and action points for the assessor.

Centre staff are reminded that all centres offering SQA qualifications must have an effective internal quality assurance system in place which ensures that all candidates are assessed accurately, fairly and consistently to national standards. A possible approach to verification is the SQA Verification Toolkit: www.sqa.org.uk/IVtoolkit.

Good practice

Assessment cover/summary/feedback sheets provide good relevant information that assist the tracking of assessment decisions and internal verification processes.

Another point of good practice is to annotate candidates' work where they meet the assessment standards. This facilitates the internal and external verification process.

It is good practice to provide information on judging evidence and/or exemplars to support the reliability of the assessment between assessors and over time.