NQ Verification 2017–18
Key Messages Round 1

01 ▸ Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	History
Verification event/visiting information	Event/visiting
Date published:	March 2018

National Courses/Units verified

H205 73	National 3	Scottish
H205 74	National 4	Scottish
H20C 74	National 4	British
H20D 74	National 4	European and World
H205 75	SCQF level 5	Scottish
H20C 75	SCQF level 5	British
H20D 75	SCQF level 5	European and World
H205 76	Higher	Scottish
H20C 76	Higher	British
H20D 76	Higher	European and World
H7WE 77	Advanced Higher	Researching Historical Issues

02 ▸ Section 2: Comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

The majority of centres had followed the guidelines set out in the unit assessment support packs, suitably adapting assessments to local needs.

Some centres had provided excellent examples of personalisation and choice, giving candidates opportunities to present their findings in a variety of formats.

Assessment judgements

The majority of centres had followed the guidelines set out in the unit assessment support packs, suitably adapting judging the evidence tables to local needs.

There was an increased use of annotation at the point of achievement; there is still scope for greater use from some centres.

There was an increased use of annotations on candidates' work to indicate where assessors and verifiers had co-ordinated their roles.

Centres are reminded to adhere closely to the assessment standards set out in the unit assessment support pack and avoid inflating standards, particularly at National 3 and National 4.

Centres are encouraged to use a variety of approaches to address Researching Historical Issues at Advanced Higher. Some centres had provided excellent local examples adapted to their candidates' needs and interests.

There were some examples of very good practice in relation to freestanding units. Centres are encouraged to use the most recent updates on SQA's website to develop their own versions of these.

03 ▶ Section 3: General comments

Many candidates would benefit from increased use of success criteria attached to relevant assessment prompts.

Use of oral re-assessment is suitable for all levels, National 3 to Advanced Higher, and is recommended.

Centres should include individual candidate record forms to clarify all outcomes and assessment standards that have been achieved.

Centres are reminded that SQA has made available detailed checklist documents at all levels to support submissions.

The overall standard of submissions was high and indicated the increasing familiarity and confidence of many centres.