



PDA in Strategic Leadership at SCQF Level 11 (GC8V 51)

Welcome to the Professional Development Award (PDA) in Strategic Leadership at SCQF Level 11. This PDA offers you the opportunity to develop your competence, knowledge and skills to provide direction for people in your organisation and inspire and motivate them to achieve what your organisation has set out to do - including overseeing the continuous improvement of the overall performance of your organisation.

This award has been developed through rigorous research involving employers, centres, and potential candidates of the qualification. The award makes use of the National Occupational Standards (NOS) for management as specified by the Council for Administration (CfA). By achieving this award, you will be able to demonstrate that, in your work as a manager, you are able to operate in accordance with these national standards. Success in the award will mean that you will have proof that your work is up to the national standards and in this way you can contribute to your own future and to that of your organisation.

The PDA in Strategic Leadership at SCQF Level 11 is made up of two mandatory Units:

- ◆ Provide Leadership for your Organisation [B7]
- ◆ Improve Organisational Performance [F12]

Both these Units are at SCQF level 11, which makes it a demanding PDA and in order to be eligible this PDA, you have to be in a role where you are providing leadership within your organisation and also improving organisational performance on an on-going basis.

The Unit 'Provide leadership for your organisation' will help you to develop your leadership skills by providing direction to people in your organisation and enabling, inspiring, motivating and supporting them to achieve what your organisation has set out to do.

The Unit 'Improve organisational performance' is closely linked to 'Provide leadership for your organisation'. It will enable you to oversee continuous improvement of the overall performance of your organisation. The emphasis of this Unit is very much on identifying and implementing changes which will add value in the eyes of customers and other key stakeholders

You will be guided through the two Units by an adviser/assessor who will help you plan for assessment and advise and help you on how to prove that you can meet the standards in the Units.

You will prove that you can meet the standards by gathering evidence from your place of work of the things that you have done, and are doing, as a manager. You will be expected to explain to your assessor, in writing or by discussion, exactly how the evidence that you have shows that you meet the standards set out in the requirements of the Units. You will gather your evidence together in a portfolio which you will be able to use to prove that you are a competent manager in terms of those parts of the national standards covered by the PDA.

The PDA is a qualification in its own right but it will also help you to progress to further management awards such as the full SVQ Management at level 5 (both Units are mandatory within this SVQ), depending on the management position you occupy and your experience as a manager.

The PDA is jointly certificated by SQA and The Chartered Management Institute (CMI). If you are successful you will be able to become part of the professional community of managers and benefit from the development opportunities that this can bring.