

Higher National Qualifications

And

Scottish Vocational Qualifications

Senior Moderator Report

2006

Subject: Advice, Guidance and Mediation

Sector Panel or SSC: SSB – ENTO

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

SVQ AWARDS

TITLES/LEVELS OF SVQ AWARDS MODERATED

SVQ Advice, Guidance and Mediation Levels 2, 3 and 4 PDAs

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

General comments:

Advice, Guidance Moderation Team.

This year we made visits to 16 centres.

There are five of us.

We therefore had few visits each especially once the centres with no live candidates were deducted.

Our team is an excellent one and the quality of reports is high. Within the team we have a great variety of experience in the field of advice and guidance and when we get together the discussion is stimulating and useful. Troublesome issues are freely aired and discussed. When a meeting is arranged we have always been able to find a date, with difficulty, which suits all of us. We also keep in contact by e-mail.

This year Anne Boyd has kept us in touch with the progress of the new standards which are soon to be published. We look forward to meeting with her to discuss their launch and how they can be best advertised in the marketplace.

As a team we feel that they would be appropriate qualifications for more candidates than presently are offered them.

Centres have been keen to have a network meeting. They have been anxious all year to know details of the new standards and the date of their introduction. It is vital that they be kept informed and given adequate time (ie notice) so that representatives can attend the proposed SQA launch event.

Centres are advised to consider offering PDAs as an alternative or in addition to SVQ levels 2, 3, 4 for certain candidates. Where these have been offered they have been deemed very successful.

The centre presently using e-portfolios is finding the method simple to use and very effective. It eases moderation. It is well worth considering especially for larger centres. Unfortunately there are few of these.

Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

Generally there has been a clear cycle of planning, feedback, monitoring and review demonstrated by assessors and IVs.

Centres make a point of keeping line managers well informed and their commitment to the awards is actively encouraged.

Induction for line managers should be universally encouraged.

There is an issue with moderation visits set up with centres with few candidates of which there are many. Each year it transpires that some centres have very little for the moderator to see and sometimes no complete unit which has been assessed. This allows no opportunity for the moderator to verify the work of the assessor or the I.V. and consequently the visit becomes more of a development visit and this is not appropriate. We will discuss this at our next meeting