



**Scottish Vocational Qualifications
Internal Assessment Report 2013
Sport and Recreation:
Outdoor Education**

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on verification in Scottish Vocational Qualifications in this subject.

SVQ awards

General comments

A relatively small number of centres were verified this year but some had good candidate numbers.

As with last year, the majority of centres delivering these SVQ awards had been doing so for a number of years and had used their growing experience and confidence to add to the candidate experience.

Centre staff were experienced in the industry and were confident with SQA procedures and requirements. Any new centres were given good support from SQA staff to ensure standards were met.

Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

The awards in this group form a niche market but the area is important for the outdoor industry. Most centres had been delivering and assessing SQA awards for some time and were familiar with requirements and procedures.

Centres were also aware that standards are subject to change as industries move onward to meet the latest standards.

Evidence Requirements

Centres generally had confidence in their ability to deliver and assess using a variety of types of assessment. This depended on the job role in which the candidate was working and the environment in which the assessment took place. It was also affected by the aspect of knowledge or skill being assessed.

Administration of assessments

Centres showed that they generally used their best efforts to ensure that candidates received quality support and that assessments were appropriate to the competence being assessed. As in previous years, centres generally had sound procedures in place to ensure that internal verification was being carried out and recorded and that the frequency and timing was appropriate to any risk factor perceived.

Candidates were working in a real environment as required by the relevant strategy.

General feedback

The quality of feedback is significant in that it allows candidate development but it is also significant in that it allows the Verifier to see why a particular assessment decision has been made.

Centres had made fair and valid assessment decisions with good justification being given.

Areas of good practice

Some centres had used NQ awards or HN awards to further enhance candidate competence and had also made effective use of NQ awards and Units to underpin knowledge and skills and to underpin the SVQ awards.

Specific areas for improvement

Verifiers can move on and when another is deployed that member of staff must also meet the requirements of the Assessment or Qualifications Strategy and have the required assessor or Internal Verifier award(s) together with the operational competence as set down in the strategy.