



Higher National Qualifications

And

Scottish Vocational Qualifications

Senior Verifier Report

2007

Subject: SVQs in Hospitality and Professional Cookery 269

Sector Panel or SSC: People1st

SVQ AWARDS

TITLES/LEVELS OF SVQ AWARDS VERIFIED

G637 21	Food preparation and Cooking
G82N 21	Food preparation and Cooking
G82T 21	Food and Drink Service
G82W 21	Front Office
G82Y 21	Quick Service
G82X 21	Hospitality Multi-skilled
G82M 21	Housekeeping
G638 22	Food Preparation and Cooking
G63G 22	Bar Service
G63D 22	Housekeeping
G63J 22	Quick Service
G63B 22	Food and Drink Service
G82H 22	Food and Drink Service
G82L 22	Food and Drink Service: Drink Service Only
G82G 22	Food and Drink Service: Food Service Only
G82V 22	Food Processing and Cooking
G82P 22	Front Office
G831 22	Housekeeping
G82K 22	Professional Cookery
G82J 22	Professional Cookery (Preparation and Cooking)
G836 22	Multi-Skilled Hospitality Services
G6FC 23	Food Preparation and Cooking (General)
G6FA 23	Food Preparation and Cooking (Kitchen and Larder)
G6FB 23	Food Preparation and Cooking (Patisserie and Confectionery)
G6XN 23	Hospitality Supervision
G82R 23	Professional Cookery
G830 23	Professional Cookery: Preparation and Cooking
G832 23	Professional Cookery: Patisserie and Confectionery

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

General comments:

This has been a challenging year for centres; due to the introduction by People1st of the revised Assessment Strategy and centres transition to the new National Occupational Standards.

At all levels, Verifiers found clear evidence of the following:

- 1 All centres have made a satisfactory transition to the new National Standards; and have appropriate plans in place for the independent assessment of knowledge requirements, in line with the new People1st Assessment Strategy.
- 2 New assessment strategy requirements have been observed for candidates registered after 1st January 2007. (Levels 2 and 3 only)
- 3 Candidates are well prepared and supported, and recognize the relevance of the qualifications to industry practice.
- 4 Standardisation activities are in place to ensure consistency of delivery to the National Standard.
- 5 An increasingly holistic approach to Internal Verification.

Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

The introduction of more detailed SQA visit plans has generally been well received; and the prior selection of candidates for sampling has reduced the burden for centres to provide the full range of candidate evidence for sampling purposes – this applies particularly to those centres which have industry-based candidates.

A more structured approach to assessment planning has generally led to increased opportunities for integration across units. This not only avoids repetition, but also results in accelerated progression rates.

Assessment

In general, the understanding and interpretation of **evidence requirements** has been good; with observation used as the primary method of assessment of competent performance, as recommended in the assessment strategy.

There has been an increased use of alternative methods of recording performance evidence, including the use of witness testimony, authenticated photographs, products of work and video evidence.

Compliance with the requirement for the **independent assessment** of Knowledge for Level 2 and Level 3 candidates registered after 1st January 2007 has been good – although in many instances the effect will not be felt in colleges until the 2007 intake of students. To date, the following routes have been successfully implemented:

- Hospitality Awarding Body/City & Guilds short answer questions
- SQA multiple-choice questions
- TestVQ on-line multiple choice questions
- City and Guilds “Gola” on-line multiple choice questions

Centres should be reminded that guidance is available on the Hospitality and Tourism pages of the SQA website.

The **recording of evidence** is generally consistent; most centres using HAB Unit Records. There is a tendency for peripatetic assessors of work-based candidates to complete records of observation; while candidates in Realistic Work Environments are encouraged to take ownership of their portfolios and record their own evidence. This approach has been more successful when a thorough induction into record-keeping has reduced initial “housekeeping” errors. Recording materials include:

- HAB Unit Records
- SQA Performance Checklists
- City and Guilds Performance Checklists
- ENVQ On-line Performance checklists
- Customised Performance Checklists

There has been strong evidence of review of **Internal Verification Procedures** in line with V1 specifications. Ongoing IV sampling, supported by the observation of assessment practices has in most cases helped to achieve consistency and standardisation. Records of sampling and meetings vary in detail; and there is room for improvement.

Feedback to assessors should be recorded and retained for Verification purposes.

Centres should also be reminded that where the internal verifier (V1) or assessor (A1 or A2) has not yet achieved the relevant units, all decisions must be counter-signed by a colleague who has achieved these units, and who has the same occupational expertise.

Records of **Continuous Professional Development** also vary in detail; and while there is evidence to show that CPD activities are taking place – these must be recorded to demonstrate compliance with the assessment strategy requirement to prove an up-to-date working knowledge of the relevant occupational area.

The content of the new **National Occupational Standards** has generally been seen as a positive step towards meeting industry needs. There have been some concerns about the level of testing required, especially for Level 1 candidates – and also about the content and possible responses of some questions. Any concerns should be communicated to the Qualifications Officer at SQA, who will then ensure that feedback is given to the appropriate body.