



**National Qualifications 2016  
Internal Assessment Report  
Skills for Work: Practical  
Experiences — Construction and  
Engineering**

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

# National courses

## Group Award C240 73 Practical Experiences: Construction & Engineering (National 3)

### General comments

Two centres had been selected for external verification this session but only one was delivering the award — the centre received a successful visit by the verifier.

This centre was a secondary school in the Highland Council area which had benefited from investment by the council in a SfW co-ordinator who had developed assessment and verification materials for use by all schools across the region. This level of support had proved invaluable to the centre in their initial stages of offering the award although it was now becoming a less active priority.

This resulted in the centre having a full understanding of the requirements of the standards.

The centre candidates were drawn from S3 and the course was used as a feeder to other technical courses selected by the candidates as being most suitable and relevant for their aspirations.

The centre had excellent partnership agreements in place with local employers which benefited all candidates in their progression of employability skills.

### Course and unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

The centre had made use of the course specification when designing the format and timing of the course. It was also familiar with the unit specifications and recorded this in their internal verification procedures.

The centre was using the SQA-produced National Assessment Bank materials for assessing candidates with minor adjustments in the practical tasks to suit local resources. These minor alterations were included in meeting minutes and procedural forms.

### Evidence requirements

The centre staff were clear in their understanding of the requirements.

### Administration of assessments

In addition to using the material produced by the region the centre staff had recorded decisions taken pre- and post-delivery, ensuring that the assessments still met the demands of the target group so that candidates would not be at a disadvantage.

Candidates had received excellent written feedback on their development of practical and employability skills throughout the course, allowing them to progress at their own level.

This resulted in a smooth and effective process for both candidates and staff.

### **Areas of good practice**

The enthusiasm of assessors and verifiers delivering the course was excellent.

More able candidates who completed their assessments early were given extra practical tasks to allow them to develop further skills in their chosen future pathways.

As standardisation of assessments across centres becomes a major focus due to amalgamations in the sector, the approach taken by this region could be used as good practice to aid resource development.

### **Specific areas for improvement**

None