NQ Verification 2021–22 Round 1

Qualification Verification Summary Report

01 ▶ ## Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name: **Engineering Science**
Verification event/visiting information: **Event**
Date published: **June 2022**

National Courses/Units verified:

H23A 74	National 4	Engineering Contexts and Challenges
H23B 74	National 4	Electronics and Control
H23D 74	National 4	Mechanisms and Structures

02 ▶ ## Section 2: Comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

The majority of centres chose to use SQA-produced unit assessment support packs (UASPs) as their assessment instruments. In these cases, the assessment approach was 'accepted'.

While centres are free to develop their own assessment instruments to support unit assessment, we strongly recommend that these are submitted to SQA for prior verification before use (unless it is an adaptation of an existing UASP and the changes are not significant).

Assessment judgements

National 4 Engineering Science units

A total of eight centres were verified for the National 4 units — the assessment judgements of four of these were 'not accepted'.

When making assessment judgements, it is not appropriate to apply a cut-off 'pass' score to each of the candidate responses. Instead the assessor must consider the responses of each candidate and make a judgement on whether the assessment standard has been met, or not.

Guidance on the requirements for meeting assessment standards is contained in the judging evidence section of the UASPs and is applicable whether an SQA-devised or centre-devised assessment instrument is used.

03 ▸ Section 3: General comments

Verification submission guidance is available on the [NQ external verification web page](#) and following this will always aid centres.

A number of centres submitted interim evidence for verification, however some of these centres did not cover a majority of assessment standards which led to 'not accepted' verification decisions.

Centres must have an internal verification policy and be able to show evidence of internal verification activity, however evidence of internal verification activity was inconsistent across the centres sampled.

While some examples of good practice were observed (such as a transparent internal verification policy that had been clearly followed), a number of centres provided evidence of internal verification that did not appear to have an impact on the final assessment judgements. External verification relies on agreeing a centre's assessment judgements and external verifiers must be able to identify what these are. As such, it is helpful to see the original assessor's judgement, the internal verifier's judgement and the final agreed judgement.

Centres should refer to the [National Qualifications Internal Verification Toolkit](#) for further guidance.