



# NQ Verification 2021–22 Round 1

## Qualification Verification Summary Report

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### Section 1: Verification group information

<b>Verification group name:</b>	<b>People and Society</b>
<b>Verification event/visiting information</b>	<b>Event</b>
<b>Date published:</b>	<b>June 2022</b>

#### National Courses/Units verified:

H249 73 and 74	People and Society: Investigating Skills
H6NC 73 and 74	People and Society: Investigating Skills with a Scottish Context
H24A 73 and 74	People and Society: Comparing and Contrasting
H6ND 73 and 74	People and Society: Comparing and Contrasting with a Scottish Context
H24B 73 and 74	People and Society: Making Decisions
H6NE 73 and 74	People and Society: Making Decisions with a Scottish Context

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### Section 2: Comments on assessment

#### Assessment approaches

- ◆ This was the first year we have had submissions from the unit assessments with a Scottish context. It is good to see local case studies being used by centres.
- ◆ Some centres have created their own assessments which are of a good standard.
- ◆ Many centres have adapted the unit assessment support packs to the topics/issues they have studied and provided appropriate judging evidence tables.
- ◆ Some centres have created a work booklet to guide and document candidate progress through units. This is a supportive approach to assist candidates in achieving the outcomes.
- ◆ Some centres provided their internal verification policy and completed checklists for the unit assessments, which allowed verifiers to check assessment approaches more easily.

### **Action points**

- ◆ When centres are creating their own assessment, they are advised to submit these to SQA so that they can be prior verified. This includes a judging evidence table being submitted for pre-verification (see below).
- ◆ When centres are adapting a unit assessment support pack, the judging evidence table should also be adapted by giving suggested answers which meet the assessment standard(s) in relation to their topic/issue.
- ◆ Assessment command words should be appropriate to the level of the assessment. For example, at National 3 'explain' is not needed and will result in the over-assessing of candidates.
- ◆ Key ideas should be chosen from the list on page 4 of the unit specification.
- ◆ Some centres did not provide evidence of verification and/or their internal verification policy for their centre. The internal verification toolkit on the SQA website ([www.sqa.org.uk/IVtoolkit](http://www.sqa.org.uk/IVtoolkit)) gives meaningful guidance and references.

### **Assessment judgements**

During verification the following examples of good practice were observed:

- ◆ Most centres were judging the evidence well according to the appropriate assessment standard.
- ◆ Assessors marking exactly where the candidate had achieved each assessment standard on the candidate's work. This allowed verifiers to identify assessment judgements.
- ◆ Some centres identified which key ideas had been chosen by the candidate and made this clear in the margins of the candidate's evidence. This was useful for verifiers in quality assuring assessment judgements.
- ◆ Cross-marking of a candidate's work helped to ensure assessment judgement decisions were more reliable.

### **Action plan**

- ◆ Centre assessors must mark where the candidate has achieved each assessment standard on each candidate's evidence to allow verifiers to verify centres' assessment judgments. Verifiers are responsible for assessing centre assessment judgments and do not mark the candidate evidence.
- ◆ Centres are reminded that they can submit interim evidence. In such cases the centre result for the candidate, recorded on the Verification Sample Form, should read 'fail' as the candidate has not yet completed all of the outcomes successfully.
- ◆ When verbal discussions are taking place to establish a candidate's understanding of an assessment standard, the questions asked by the assessor and the candidate's responses should be recorded on the candidate evidence. This allows the verification team to verify the judgement made by the centre, based on the content of these discussions.
- ◆ Where centre staff have cross-marked candidate evidence (and disagreed with an assessment judgment) they should include information on why final decisions have been made and not simply state 'agreed'.

### Section 3: General comments

- ◆ **A significant number of centres submitted candidate work that was unmarked.** The purpose of verification is to review a centre's assessment and determine whether their approach to assessment and their assessment judgements are in line with the national standard. It is not the role of verifiers to assess the candidates' work.
- ◆ **This was the first year that electronic submissions had been verified.** The centres involved have clearly worked hard to produce detailed submissions.
- ◆ **Centres are only required to submit one unit for verification purposes.** Some centres submitted three units for this round of verification.
- ◆ **At least one full outcome**, and all the assessment standards within it, **must be attempted by candidates to allow verification to take place.**
- ◆ **Centres must ensure that the evidence presented by candidates is their own work** and should not accept evidence which has been copied-and-pasted or plagiarised.