Equality Review Summary

Qualification	History
Level	National 5

REVIEW OF NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS EQUALITY REVIEW	
Date of review	21/01/2019

Coursework and/ or Question Paper revisions

Following the removal of units, the question paper is being extended to ensure it samples a greater amount of course content. The Paper will include more questions and the number of available marks will increase from 60 marks to 80 marks. The duration of the exam will therefore also increase. All four issues in the mandatory content will be sampled in each context (Scottish, British, European & World), which is a change from the current question paper which samples three out of four issues.

The clarification of the conditions of assessment for the assignment, and the adjustment of the component weightings, will enhance the reliability of the course assessment.

Equality & inclusion issues

No changes have been made to the aims, rationale or content of the course. Only the Course assessment have changed as outlined above. This means that the original equality review carried out and attached remains valid and fit for purpose. It should be noted however, that the Units, which were a feature of the original ERF, have now been removed.

Extension to Question paper

Disability
Some disabled candidates may be adversely affected by the introduction of an extended question paper. For example, candidates with physical disabilities or those unable to concentrate for extended periods may have difficulties demonstrating their attainment. Other disabled candidates such as those with mental health difficulties or emotional behavioural difficulties may find the longer examination experience overly stressful.

Religion and belief
Some candidates may experience fatigue and be adversely affected in an extended question paper because they are fasting, for example this could impact on Muslim candidates who fast during Ramadan.

Actions that will mitigate any adverse impact outlined above

While it is not possible to exempt disabled learners from the external QP at National 5 where this is an integral assessment component, the provision of appropriate assessment arrangements and other supportive practices will mitigate the adverse impact for many disabled candidates. For example, by the careful consideration of the amount of extra time being requested and by further consideration being given as to whether there are any other more appropriate assessment arrangements such as using ICT and/or assistive technologies or the inclusion of rest breaks.

It is not possible for SQA to take all possible religious festivals and periods of observance into account when constructing the exam timetable. SQA will take into account, through its exceptional circumstances process, any negative impact such as a candidate being unwell caused by fasting during an examination.

ORIGINAL NATIONAL QUALIFICATION DEVELOPMENT EQUALITY REVIEW

Date of review	24/03/2014

Summary of Conclusion and recommendation

As the means of producing evidence to demonstrate a candidate having met the assessment standards is not defined, candidates may make use of a range of evidence-generating techniques. Communication of viewpoints can be carried out using a variety of means: written, oral or using ICT.

The current range of assessment arrangements that feature regularly in current SQA national Courses would provide sufficient support to mitigate any potential adverse impact, for example learners could be supported by readers and/or scribes and assistive technologies could be used.

SQA has gone beyond the requirements of the Equalities Act in the development of the History qualifications, for example liaising with the German Ambassador to consider the language used and eliminating a potential negative impact of the focus of some areas of the course.

Support Notes will guide centres to apply sensitivity to their learners when selecting topics and issues for learning and assessment. It is also recommended that any case study, scenario or stimulus materials be inclusive and do not promote stereotypes.