



**Arrangements for:
NC Horticulture
at SCQF level 5**

Group Award Code: GF3C 45

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Acknowledgement

SQA acknowledges the valuable contribution that Scotland's colleges have made to the development of National Qualification Group Awards.

History of changes

It is anticipated that changes will take place during the life of the qualification, and this section will record these changes. This document is the latest version and incorporates the changes summarised below.

Version number	Description	Date
04	Revision of Unit: J614 44 Enterprise Skills has replaced D36N 10 Enterprise Activity. D36N 10 Enterprise Activity will finish on 31/07/2024.	01/02/22
03	Addition of unit: J581 44 - Virtual Work Placement Level 4 added as alternative to HF88 44 – Work Placement. Virtual Work Placement Unit (s) added to framework as an optional work experience unit to allow learners to continue with a work experience when attendance in a physical workplace is not possible or preferred	15/09/2021
02	Revision of Unit: D36H 10 Work Experience <i>has been revised by HF88 44 Work Placement and will finish on 31/07/2017.</i> Revision of Unit: D36H 11 Work Experience <i>has been revised by HF88 45 Work Placement and will finish on 31/07/2017.</i>	22/07/2016

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1 Introduction

This is the Arrangements Document for the new Group Award in Horticulture, at SCQF level 5, which was validated in March 2012. This document includes: background information on the development of the Group Award, its aims, guidance on access, details of the Group Award structure, and guidance on delivery.

Upon completion of the award the candidate will have acquired the necessary hard and soft skills required in today's horticulture industry at this level. Successful completion of the NC will help aid progression to other related qualifications including the Higher National Certificates and Diplomas in Horticulture, Horticulture with Plantsmanship, Garden Design and Landscape Management, Level 2 and Level 3 SVQs in Horticulture, Landscaping, Parks, Gardens and Green Space and Production Horticulture and the related Modern Apprenticeships (MAs). It will also help candidates gain employment at a suitable level in a range of job roles within the Horticulture industry.

2 Rationale for the development of the Group Award

The centres involved in the Qualification Design Team (QDT) for this award have successfully offered locally devised NC level Horticulture qualifications based on existing SQA National Unit provision for many years. This qualification is designed to standardise and rationalise this local provision and produce a National Group Award consisting of up to date Unit specifications that will meet the needs of employers, for skilled horticultural staff, and aid progression to more advanced study in related areas.

It was felt that the changes to industry National Occupational Standards (NOS) and the overall progression within industry of technological and knowledge based activities were not fully reflected or acknowledged through the current range of Units offered, which constrained the ability of centres to provide programmes of study which prepared candidates adequately for employment or enable successful candidates to progress to further study and qualifications.

The Horticulture industry in the UK has over 17,000 businesses employing more than 170,000 staff, with more than 1,500 of these businesses and 7,500 employees within Scotland. (Source: Lantra 'Horticulture, landscaping and sports turf factsheet 2010–2011')

The design of the new qualification provides both school leavers and adult returners seeking employment an entry level within the industry and supports those seeking to progress onto further study. The award will appeal to adult returners seeking a career change or simply pursuing an interest in horticulture as it provides a nationally recognised qualification entry point into the industry. It is also suitable in helping to develop the knowledge and skills of those already within employment, for example amenity horticulture staff employed by local authorities, landscapers, nursery and plant production staff, and may also be offered, in part, in schools and within prisons and secure facilities.

The qualification is designed at SCQF level 5 which reflects the level of the current local provision. The award will allow for progression for candidates who have achieved the Skills for Work Rural Skills award at SCQF level 4, and an opportunity for further horticulture specific study for candidates who have achieved the National Progression Award (NPA) in Rural Skills at SCQF level 5. It will also provide an opportunity for candidates with little or no previous horticultural experience to develop their knowledge and skills and to progress to further study.

The structure of the award has been designed to allow candidates to develop practical 'hands on' skills along with the knowledge and understanding required to effectively apply these skills in different contexts.

2.1 Consultation with Stakeholders

On behalf of the QDT, a consultation exercise was undertaken among key stakeholders, through a questionnaire process, relating to the new NC Horticulture at SCQF level 5. The stakeholders were asked to comment on general and specific aspects of an outline structure which, in essence, was the same as that being proposed. The stakeholders canvassed represented a cross section of the industry in Scotland. Consultation was only required to be sought from employers because all the relevant centres delivering the award were involved in the QDT process.

The questionnaire was issued to a wide range of individuals and companies within the horticulture industry in Scotland and over 20 responses were received including from:

- ◆ Local Authorities
- ◆ Botanical Gardens
- ◆ Nurseries
- ◆ Garden Designers
- ◆ Horticultural Consultants
- ◆ Trade Bodies
- ◆ Garden Centres

Overall the replies received were positive. The core and options structure was considered suitable and there was support for key aspects of the content within the proposed structure:

- ◆ Candidates completing the award would have gained appropriate skills.
- ◆ The proposed award would provide appropriate preparation for work.
- ◆ The proposed award would help enable progression to other awards, including HN awards.

The responses therefore provided an indication that there is a need for a recognised NC Horticulture award and reinforced the approach which the QDT has taken to meeting this need.

2.2 Determining the level of the award

The QDT recognised that current arrangements operated by centres are designed to meet the needs of learners at all three SCQF levels 4–6. Any new awards should therefore cover all three levels.

The main reasons for this were:

- ◆ Current experience in centres suggests that a 12 credit award was an acceptable target which most learners could achieve.
- ◆ A focus on level 5 would make it possible for learners to acquire skills and capabilities which would be meaningful and valuable to employers.
- ◆ An appropriate core and options structure would enable candidates to accumulate Units at level 6 to aid their progression to higher level qualifications.
- ◆ An award at this level fitted more closely with available information on the current provision, which would make transition to the new award easier and, therefore, encourage take-up among centres.

In this way the new award could provide progression both into employment or further study depending on the wishes of the candidate.

3 Aims of the Group Award

The NC in Horticulture has been designed to provide a flexible, practical based programme which aims to provide candidates with a range of practical and industry relevant skills, and optional routes within the various disciplines found in horticulture, supported by relevant and up to date knowledge and understanding.

It recognises that some learners will be at a stage where they are making choices about their future careers and options within the Horticulture industry and the award offers an opportunity for centres to signpost a range of career and further study options.

As a result, it offers exit routes, aimed towards employment or further study, depending on the wishes and the ability of the learner. Completing the NC will place learners in a stronger position to move to the next stage of their career and should increase their chances of achieving success.

3.1 Principal aims of the Group Award

All of the mandatory Units have been chosen to ensure that candidates entering employment will have a good all-round knowledge of the horticulture industry and have experienced many of the practical skills required of someone entering a career in this area.

The principal aims of the NC in Horticulture are:

- 1 To rationalise the range of local provision offered across a number of centres.
- 2 Prepare and provide candidates with the specific, relevant and transferable knowledge and skills, demanded by employers at this level.
- 3 To develop the knowledge and skills required to work safely within the horticulture industry.
- 4 To provide a flexible award which allows centres and candidates to access a range of specialist Units in addition to the mandatory Units.
- 5 Prepare candidates for entry into further qualifications such as additional vocationally industry relevant courses, Higher National awards and SVQ awards in Horticulture, Management and other related areas.
- 6 Apply relevant Core Skills to Horticulture related occupations and further study in the sector.

3.2 General aims of the Group Award

- 1 Enable candidates to consider the various options open to them and to make informed career choices for their future.
- 2 Demonstrate specific, relevant and transferable skills demanded by employers for entry into a wide range of horticulture related occupational areas.

3.3 Target groups

The NC in Horticulture is designed to meet the needs of a range of candidates. These include school leavers who may have undertaken a Skills for Work award which included some introductory horticultural experience, candidates looking to develop their practical skills with a view to seeking employment within the Horticulture industry, candidates wishing to develop underpinning knowledge and skills which will aid their progression to higher level study such as the HNCs in Horticulture, Garden Design or Landscape Management or the Level 3 SVQ or MA in Horticulture and related awards and even candidates with no current plans to seek employment or further education but who simply wish to pursue their passion for gardening.

The structure of the NC is designed to reflect the different types of candidates attracted to the award, including a Mandatory Section which provides the underpinning knowledge and skills which form the basis of a career in horticulture in combination with sufficient flexibility within the Optional Section to meet the needs of the candidate, the resources of the centre and the demands of local employers.

3.4 Employment opportunities

The design of the new qualification will provide both school leavers and adult returners seeking employment an entry level within the industry and support those seeking to progress onto further study. The award will appeal to adult returners seeking a career change or simply pursuing an interest in horticulture as it will provide a nationally recognised qualification entry point into the industry. It will also be suitable in helping to develop the knowledge and skills of those already within employment, for example amenity horticulture staff employed by local authorities, landscapers, nursery and plant production staff, and may also be offered, in part, in schools and within prisons and secure facilities.

4 Access to Group Award

There are no specific entry requirements for this award, entry will be at the discretion of the centre. Centres will operate their own systems to recruit candidates for the award, which may include consideration of existing qualifications (including Standard Grades and Highers), interviews with candidates, the candidates previous experience within the industry, Accreditation of Prior Learning and Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APL and APEL). For candidates for whom English is not their first language, it may be appropriate to undertake the SQA ESOL Course and /or attain an English qualification at SCQF level 4.

5 Group Award structure

The NC in Horticulture at level 5 will be awarded to candidates who achieve 72 SCQF points at levels 4, 5 or 6.

This will be made up as follows:

- ◆ 36 SCQF points at level 5 from the mandatory Units in the award.
- ◆ 36 SCQF points at levels, 4, 5 or 6 from the optional Units in the award (including a minimum of 3 SCQF points at SCQF level 5 to ensure that all candidates complete a majority of SCQF points at SCQF level 5).

5.1 Framework

To meet the requirements of the award, candidates must complete the seven mandatory Units (36 SCQF points at SCQF level 5), plus 6 Unit credits (36 SCQF points) chosen from the specified list of options.

Mandatory Units (36 SCQF credit points required)

Unit code	Unit title	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
H1JA 11	Soils and Growing Media in Horticulture	6	5	1.0
H1JB 11	Plant Identification	6	5	1.0
D878 11	Plant Husbandry: Common Disorders	6	5	1.0
H1JC 11	Basic Botany	3	5	0.5
H1JD 11	Planting and Maintenance	6	5	1.0
H1JE 11	Horticultural Machinery: Operation and Maintenance	6	5	1.0
H1JF 11	Plant Nutrition	3	5	0.5

Optional Group 1 (from 3 to 36 SCQF credit points required) — at least one Unit must be selected from the following:

Unit code	Unit title	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
H1JG 11	Horticultural Fence Construction	6	5	1.0
H1JH 11	Plant Production from Seed	6	5	1.0
H1JM 11	Heritage Gardening	6	5	1.0
H1JN 11	Plantsmanship	6	5	1.0
H1JR 11	Garden Design	6	5	1.0
H1JS 11	Home and Allotment Gardening	6	5	1.0
H1JT 11	Lawns and Lawn : An Introduction	6	5	1.0
H1JV 11	Setting Out Landscape Areas	6	5	1.0
H1JY 11	Landscape Construction: An Introduction	3	5	0.5
H1K0 11	Protected Crop Production: Pot Plants	6	5	1.0
H1K1 11	Plant Display	3	5	0.5
H1K2 11	Trowel Skills for Landscape Construction	6	5	1.0
H1K3 11	Drystone Dykes: Building and Repairing	6	5	1.0
H1K4 11	Use of Hand Tools in Horticulture	3	5	0.5
H1K5 11	Soft Landscaping: General Plantings	6	5	1.0
H1K6 11	Vegetative Propagation	6	5	1.0

Unit code	Unit title	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
H1K7 11	Soft Landscaping: Trees and Shrubs	6	5	1.0
H1K9 11	Soft Landscaping: Specialist Plantings	6	5	1.0
H1KA 11	Bedding Plant Production	6	5	1.0
H1KB 11	Soft Landscaping: Herbaceous Perennials	6	5	1.0
F3JB 11	Construction Materials: An Introduction	6	5	1.0

Optional Group 2 — up to 33 SCQF credit points required

Unit code	Unit title	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
H1JJ 10	Horticultural Drainage	3	4	0.5
D37N10	Bricklaying: An Introduction	6	4	1.0
H1K8 10	Laying Slabs and Paving: An Introduction	6	4	1.0
H1JK 12	Water Features	6	6	1.0
H1JL 12	Rock Garden Construction	6	6	1.0
H1JX 12	Computer Aided Drafting: Landbased Industries	6	6	1.0
H1JW 12	Pesticide Application	6	6	1.0
H1JP 12	Horticultural Therapy	6	6	1.0
J614 44/45X*	Enterprise Skills* (SCQF level 4/5)	6	4/5	1.0
*HF88 44 / *45 or J581 44*	Work Placement (SCQF level 4/5)	6	4/5	1.0
F38X 11	Virtual Work Placement (SCQF Level 4)			
	Skills for Customer Care (SCQF level 5)	6	5	1.0

Beyond the 72 SCQF credit points required to obtain the Group Award, centres and candidates are free to choose any other Units from the framework.

Candidates wishing to progress to HN awards could, for example, attempt further Units at level 6 which would aid their progression to SCQF level 7 HN awards.

5.2 Mapping information

Mapping Information is available in the following appendices:

Appendix A: Core Skills Mapping

Appendix B: Mapping of Units to National Occupational Standards (NOS)

Appendix C: Opportunities to Integrate Assessment between Units

Appendix D: Potential Delivery Schedule

Appendix E: Progression Table

5.3 Articulation, professional recognition and credit transfer

Candidates could progress to this award from the Skills for Work Rural Skills (SCQF level 4) award. It may also be suitable for those wishing to specialise in Horticulture who have already completed the SCQF level 5 National Progression Award (NPA) in Rural Skills.

No professional or trade body recognition is conferred by achievement of this award however Unit 'Pesticide Application' provides the underpinning knowledge and skills required to achieve the PA1 Pesticide Application award.

As this is a new award there are likely to be limited opportunities for Credit Transfer, however Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL) and/or Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) may be available for candidates who have previously completed qualifications in related areas or can evidence their prior experience. All Credit Transfer and APL/APEL will be considered on a case by case basis and should follow normal centre procedures.

6 Approaches to delivery and assessment

6.1 Assessment principles

The flexibility of the Group Award means that centres can tailor the Unit programmes that they offer to reflect the requirements of local employers and other stakeholders.

The Units chosen for the National Certificate in Horticulture are ones which lend themselves in general to practical methods of delivery and of assessment.

Specific learning and teaching methods will vary between and within Units, but there is a common thread of presenting them in a way which will engage the interest of candidates.

6.2.1 Mandatory Units

The content of the mandatory Units has been chosen to reflect the needs of learners and employers alike. The mandatory Units will equip the candidate with the necessary horticulture specific knowledge and skills required to undertake duties and tasks within the industry.

6.2.2 Optional Units

The optional Units have been chosen to allow the candidate to develop in a way that suits their preferred objectives, which is consistent with their learning development and provides options to develop skills in a wide range of horticulture disciplines. In broad terms, therefore, the optional Units allow learners to gain further employment related skills or to prepare themselves more fully for entry into employment within specific trades and occupational areas, further qualifications or workbased training. Candidates and centres may choose to identify specific optional Units which may suit those who are unsure of their future direction and wish to keep their options open.

6.3 Modes of delivery

It is envisaged that most centres will be offering the National Certificate in Horticulture as a full-time course, over the full academic year, incorporating a total of between 15–18 credits. Some may decide to offer the Group Award as an Access to HN, commencing in January, and only covering the required 12 credits. Alternatively, some centres may decide to offer the 12 credit Group Award on either a part-time or distance learning basis, or as a mixture of both.

6.4 Planning delivery

Due to the seasonality of some of the Units and the demands placed on individual centres to provide student placements early in the latter half of the academic year, linked to the various career routes and industry variations in horticulture, timetabling of the Units will be at the discretion of each individual centre. However the suggestion of the QDT would be to deliver the mandatory Units first, as far as possible, thus providing the underpinning knowledge required to undertake more specialist Units. The NC is intended as a highly practical award which provides candidates with the opportunity to develop their knowledge and skills in the relevant vocational context, centres should ensure they have access to the resources and environments (including relevant equipment and access to areas to plant and maintain etc) required to deliver the award in that context.

6.4.1 Sample delivery plan

Centres are free to schedule and deliver the award to best fit their local requirements; however the following is provided as a possible model for delivery based on a full-time candidate undertaking the NC over the course of an academic year.

Mandatory Units

Unit title	Block	Type of Delivery
Soils and Growing Media in Horticulture	2, 3	TL, SC, P
Plant Identification	1, 2, 3	TL, SC, P, VLE
Plant Husbandry: Common Disorders	1, 3	TL, SC, P
Basic Botany	1, 2, 3	TL, SC, VLE
Planting and Maintenance	1, 2, 3	TL, P
Horticultural Machinery: Operation and Maintenance	1, 3	TL,P
Plant Nutrition	1, 2	TL, SC, P, VLE

Option Units

Unit title	Block	Type of delivery
Horticultural Fence Construction	1, 3	TL, SC, P
Plant Production from Seed	1, 2, 3	TL, SC, P
Horticultural Drainage	2	TL, SC
Water Features	1; 2 & 3	TL, SC, P
Rock Garden Construction	1; 2 & 3	TL, SC, P
Heritage Gardening	1 & 3	TL, SC, P, VLE
Plantsmanship	1 & 3	TL, SC, P
Horticultural Therapy	1, 2, 3	TL, SC, P, VLE
Garden Design	1, 2	TL, SC, P, VLE
Home and Allotment Gardening	1, 2, 3	TL, SC, P
Lawns and Lawn: An Introduction	1, 2	TL, P
Setting Out Landscape Areas	2, 3	TL, SC, P
Pesticide Application	2, 3	TL, P, VLE
Computer Aided Drafting: Landbased Industries	2, 3	TL, SC
Landscape Construction: An Introduction	1, 2, 3	TL, P
Protected Crop Production: Pot Plants	2,3	TL, P
Plant Display	2,3	TL, SC, P
Trowel Skills for Landscape Construction	1, 2, 3	TL, P
Drystone Dykes: Building and Repairing	1, 3	TL, P
Soft Landscaping:Trees and Shrubs	2, 3	TL, P
Estate Maintenance: An Introduction	1, 2	TL, P
Use of Hand Tools in Horticulture	1, 2, 3	TL, P
Soft Landscaping: General Plantings	1, 3	TL, SC, P
Vegetative Propagation	1, 2, 3	TL, SC, P
Laying Slabs and Paving: An Introduction	1, 2, 3	TL, P
Soft Landscaping: Specialist Planting	1, 3	TL, SC, P
Bedding Plant Production	2, 3	TL, SC, P

Option Units (cont)

Unit title	Block	Type of delivery
Soft Landscaping: Herbaceous Perennials	1, 3	TL, SC, P
Construction Materials: An Introduction	1, 2	TL, SC
Enterprise Activity (SCQF level 4/5)	1, 2, 3	TL, SC
Work Experience (SCQF level 4/5)	2, 3	TL, SC, P
Skills for Customer Care (SCQF level 5)	2, 3	TL, SC

Block Dates

Block 1 — September to November

Block 2 — December to February

Block 3 — March to June

Key

TL — Tutor Led

SC — Student Centred

VLE — Virtual Learning Environment

P — Practical

6.5 Open Learning

Open learning may be feasible for some Outcomes within some Units in this award structure. The great majority of Outcomes rely, however, on the candidate developing practical performance skills in the presence of centre staff and/or fellow candidates. Practical and hands-on activities underpin much of the learning, and so the opportunities for distance learning are limited. Centres may, however, find it possible to develop solutions for all or parts of some Units provided all Unit and quality assurance requirements are met in full.

Technological advances may make the possibility of such creative solutions more widespread in the future for example through blended learning, e-learning and online assessment.

Because of the practical nature of many Units, distance/open learning may not be easily accessible. However, a blended approach to learning including on line learning would encourage part-time study by those within relevant employment.

7 General information for centres

Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements.

Internal and external verification

All instruments of assessment used within this/these Group Award(s) should be internally verified, using the appropriate policy within the centre and the guidelines set by SQA.

External verification will be carried out by SQA to ensure that internal assessment is within the national guidelines for these qualifications.

Further information on internal and external verification can be found in *SQA's Guide to Assessment* (www.sqa.org.uk).

8 General information for candidates

The Horticulture Industry offers a wide range of interesting and challenging opportunities to people with the right qualifications and the National Certificate (NC) in Horticulture is a fantastic starting point. Whether you have just left school or are interested in a change of career or simply wish to pursue your hobby the NC in Horticulture will help you to develop the skills you need for a wide range of horticultural tasks and jobs. The NC is a practical course and will provide you with opportunities to apply the skills you are developing to real situations whether that is being able to identify plants in your local park or what plants will thrive in your garden and how to take care of them.

You will study:

- ◆ **Soils and Growing Media in Horticulture:** how soils are formed and how their properties can effect what is grown
- ◆ **Plant Identification:** how plants are grouped together and how to identify plants including the use of keys
- ◆ **Plant Husbandry:** how to identify and deal with the common weeds, pests and diseases that effect plants
- ◆ **Basic Botany:** an introduction to science of how plants grow
- ◆ **Planting and Maintenance:** prepare, plant and care for plants
- ◆ **Horticultural Machinery: Operation and Maintenance:** how to select, safely use and maintain a range of machinery commonly used in horticulture
- ◆ **Plant Nutrition:** the nutrients required for plant growth and the fertilisers that can be used to provide them

In addition to the Units above which everyone will cover you will have the opportunity to select, in discussion with your centre, a range of optional Units which will expand on the core subjects and allow you to focus on areas of interest to you. You could choose to focus on garden design, hard or soft landscaping, plant production or a combination of them all. If you are interested in moving on to higher level qualifications, like the HNC or HND in Horticulture, there are a range of optional SCQF level 6 Units included in the award which will help prepare you for more advanced study.

The NC is a highly practical course and you will often be assessed by observation of the practical activities you carry out. In addition you are likely to also be assessed by identification tests, short answer tests and short reports or presentations.

The NC is at SCQF level 5. To achieve the NC in Horticulture you will be required to complete a minimum of 72 SCQF points (equivalent to 12 Unit credits). Your centre may offer the opportunity to take additional Units.

On completion of the NC you will be well placed to pursue a career in the horticulture industry, go on to study at a higher level or simply get the most out of your garden.

9 Glossary of terms

SCQF: This stands for the Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework, which is a new way of speaking about qualifications and how they inter-relate. We use SCQF terminology throughout this guide to refer to credits and levels. For further information on the SCQF visit the SCQF website at www.scqf.org.uk

SCQF credit points: One SCQF credit point equates to 10 hours of learning. NQ Units at SCQF levels 2–6 are worth 6 SCQF credit points, NQ Units at level 7 are worth 8 SCQF points.

SCQF levels: The SCQF covers 12 levels of learning. National Qualification Group Awards are available at SCQF levels 2–6 and will normally be made up of National Units which are available from SCQF levels 2–7.

Dedicated Unit to cover Core Skills: This is a non-subject Unit that is written to cover one or more particular Core Skills.

Embedded Core Skills: This is where the development of a Core Skill is incorporated into the Unit and where the Unit assessment also covers the requirements of Core Skill assessment at a particular level.

Signposted Core Skills: This refers to the opportunities to develop a particular Core Skill at a specified level that lie outwith automatic certification.

Qualification Design Team: The QDT works in conjunction with a Qualification Manager/Development Manager to steer the development of the National Certificate/National Progression Award from its inception/revision through to validation. The group is made up of key stakeholders representing the interests of centres, employers, universities and other relevant organisations.

Consortium-devised National Certificates/National Progression Awards are those developments or revisions undertaken by a group of centres in partnership with SQA.

10 Appendices

Appendix A: Core Skills Mapping

Appendix B: Mapping of Units to National Occupational Standards (NOS)

Appendix C: Opportunities to Integrate Assessment between Units

Appendix D: Potential Delivery Schedule

Appendix E: Progression Table

Appendix A: Core Skills Mapping

Core skill Unit	Communication (Written)	Communication (Oral)	Num: Using Graphical Info	Num: Using Number	Using IT	Problem Solving — CT	Problem Solving — P&O	Problem Solving — R&E	Working with Others
Soils and Growing Media in Horticulture	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Plant Identification	x	x			x				x
Plant Husbandry: Common Disorders	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Basic Botany		x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Planting and Maintenance	x	x		x		x		x	x
Horticultural Machinery: Operation and Maintenance	x	x					x	x	x
Plant Nutrition	x		x		x	x	x	x	x
Horticultural Fence Construction	x	x		x	x		x		x
Plant Production from Seed	x	x				x	x	x	x
Horticultural Drainage	x	x			x	x	x	x	x
Water Features		x		x		x	x	x	x
Rock Garden Construction		x		x		x	x	x	x
Heritage Gardening		x			x				x
Plantsmanship	x	x		x	x				x
Horticultural Therapy	x	x		x	x				x
Garden Design	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x
Home and Allotment Gardening	x		x	x		x	x	x	x
Lawns and Lawn: An Introduction	x								x
Setting Out Landscape Areas	x	x	x	x	x				x
Pesticide Application	x	x							x
Computer Aided Drafting: Landbased Industries		x	x	x	x				
Landscape Construction: An Introduction	x	x	x			x	x	x	x
Protected Crop Production: Pot Plants	x	x		x		x	x	x	x
Plant Display	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
Trowel Skills for Landscape Construction		x	x			x	x	x	x
Drystone Dykes: Building and Repairing	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x
Estate Maintenance: An Introduction		x							x
Use of Hand Tools in Horticulture		x							x
Soft Landscaping: General Plantings	x	x				x	x	x	x
Vegetative Propagation		x							x
Soft Landscaping: Trees and Shrubs		x							x
Laying Slabs and Paving: An Introduction		x							x
Soft Landscaping: Specialist Planting	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
Bedding Plant Production	x	x	x	x	x	x			x

Core skill (continued)	Communication (Written)	Communication (Oral)	Num: Using Graphical Info	Num: Using Number	Using IT	Problem Solving — CT	Problem Solving — P&O	Problem Solving — R&E	Working with Others
Unit									
Soft Landscaping: Herbaceous Perennials									X
Construction Materials: An Introduction	X	X		X	X	X			X
Enterprise Activity (SCQF level 4/5)	X	X							X
Work Experience (SCQF level 4/5)	X	X							X
Skills for Customer Care (SCQF level 5)	X	X							X

Appendix B: Mapping of Units to NOS

Units within Group Award	Status M/O	NOS Title(s) (status)
Soils and Growing Media in Horticulture	M	L2 Establish Plants outdoors CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety CU74 Prepare Growing media
Plant Identification	M	L2 Establish Plants outdoors CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety PH14 Identify and classify plants accurately using their botanical names CU5 Develop personal performance and maintain working relationships
Plant Husbandry: Common Disorders	M	L2 Establish Plants outdoors CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety PH78 Identify the presence of pests, diseases and disorders and assist with their control
Basic Botany	M	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety PH14 Identify and classify plants accurately using their botanical names CU73 Propagate plants from seed CU72 Propagate plants by vegetative methods
Planting and Maintenance	M	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety L1 Site preparation L2 Establish Plants Outdoors L4 Establish and develop decorative amenity areas L22 Manage planted areas for their amenity value CU76 Maintain Plants Outdoors
Horticultural Machinery: Operation and Maintenance	M	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety CU11 Prepare and operate a tractor with attachments L27 Use and Maintain equipment and machines CU28 Prepare for and maintain Equipment and machines. CU5 Develop personal performance and maintain working relationships
Plant Nutrition	M	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety

Units within Group Award	Status M/O	NOS Title(s) (status)
Horticultural Fence Construction	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety L24 Construct hard landscape components Fe3 Install fencing Fe6 Repair Fencing CU19 Construct and Maintain boundaries and paths
Plant Production from Seed	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety CU73 Propagate plants from seed CU74 Prepare Growing Media
Horticultural Drainage	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety L21 Maintain Drainage and Irrigation systems
Water Features	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety L28 Construct and Maintain Water Features L23 Prepare sites for landscape construction and installation
Rock Garden Construction	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety L23 Prepare sites for landscape construction and installation L26 Estimate resource requirements and programme of works,
Heritage Gardening	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety L25 Restore landscape areas and components
Plantsmanship	O	PH14 Identify and classify plants accurately using their botanical names
Horticultural Therapy	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety CU5 Develop personal performance and maintain working relationships
Garden Design	O	L16 Specify and monitor landscape maintenance CU5 Develop personal performance and maintain working relationships

Units within Group Award	Status M/O	NOS Title(s) (status)
Home and Allotment Gardening	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety L1 Site preparation L2 Establish plants outdoors CU72 Propagate plants by vegetative methods CU73 Propagate Plants from Seed CU74 Prepare growing media
Lawns and Lawn: An Introduction	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety L3 Maintain general amenity turf L1 Site preparation L2 Establish plants outdoors
Setting Out Landscape Areas	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety L27 Use and maintain equipment and machines
Computer Aided Drafting: Landbased Industries		
Landscape Construction: An Introduction	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety L23 Prepare sites for landscape construction and installation L26 Estimate resource requirements and programme work
Protected Crop Production: Pot Plants	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety L17 Produce pants for decorative horticultural displays PH13 Prepare and maintain environmental conditions for protected crops CU74 Prepare growing media
Plant Display	O	L8 Establish interior plant displays L9 Maintain interior plant displays L17 Produce pants for decorative horticultural displays L18 Maintain and develop decorative horticultural displays
Trowel Skills for Landscape Construction	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety
Drystone Dykes: Building and Repair	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety L24 Construct hard landscape components

Units within Group Award	Status M/O	NOS Title(s) (status)
Estate Maintenance: An Introduction	O	CU Monitor and maintain Health and Safety L16 Specify and monitor landscape maintenance CU19 Construct and maintain boundaries and paths
Use of Hand Tools in Horticulture	O	L27 Use and maintain equipment and machines CU3 Promote, monitor and maintain Health and Safety and security
Soft Landscaping: General Planting	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety L1 Site preparation L2 Establish plants outdoors
Vegetative Propagation	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety CU72 Propagate Plants by vegetative methods CU74 Prepare growing media
Soft Landscaping: Trees and Shrubs	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety L1 Site preparation L2 Establish plants outdoors
Laying Slabs and Paving: An Introduction	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety L24 Construct hard landscape components CU5 Develop personal performance and maintain working relationships.
Soft Landscaping: Specialist Planting	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety L1 Site preparation L2 Establish plants outdoors L4 Establish and develop decorative amenity areas L22 Manage planted areas for their amenity value
Bedding Plant Production	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety CU73 Propagate Plants from Seed CU74 Prepare growing media PH3 Monitor and maintain the growth and development of crops

Units within Group Award	Status M/O	NOS Title(s) (status)
Soft Landscaping: Herbaceous Perennials	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety L1 Site preparation L2 Establish plants outdoors L4 Establish and develop decorative amenity areas L22 Manage planted areas for their amenity value
Construction Materials and Products	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety L26 Estimate resources requirements and programme work
Enterprise Activity (SCQF level 4/5)	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety CU5 Develop personal performance and maintain working relationships
Work Experience (SCQF level 4/5)	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety CU5 Develop personal performance and maintain working relationships L27 Use and maintain equipment and machines
Customer Care (SCQF level 5)	O	CU2 Monitor and maintain Health and Safety CU5 Develop personal performance and maintain working relationships

Appendix C: Opportunities to Integrate Assessment between Units

	Soils and Growing Mediums in Horticulture	Plant Identification	Plant Husbandry: Common Disorders	Basic Botany	Planting and Maintenance	Horticultural Machinery: Operation and Maintenance	Plant Nutrition	Horticultural Fence Construction	Plant Production from Seed	Drainage 1: An Introduction	Water Features	Rock Garden Construction	Heritage Gardening	Plantsmanship	Horticultural Therapy	Garden Design	Home and Allotment Gardening	Lawns and Lawn: An Introduction	Setting Out Landscape Areas	Pesticide Application	Computer Aided Drafting: Landbased Industries	Landscape Construction: An Introduction	Protected Crop Production: Pot Plants	Plant Display	Trowel Skills for Landscape Construction	Drystone Dykes: Building and Repairing	Estate Maintenance: An Introduction	Use of Hand Tools in Horticulture	Soft Landscaping: General Plantings	Vegetative Propagation	Soft Landscaping: Trees and Shrubs	Laying Slabs and Paving: An Introduction	Soft Landscaping: Specialist Plantings	Bedding Plant Production	Soft Landscaping: Herbaceous Perennials	Construction Materials: An Introduction	Enterprise Activity (SCQF level 4/5)	Work Experience (SCQF level 4/5)	Skills for Customer Care (SCQF level 5)											
Soils and Growing Mediums in Horticulture					x				x					x																																				
Plant Identification				x																																														
Plant Husbandry: Common Disorders		x			x										x																																			
Basic Botany		x																																																
Planting and Maintenance						x								x																																				
Horticultural Machinery: Operation and Maintenance							x			x	x	x	x																																					
Plant Nutrition				x		x																																												
Optional Units																																																		
Horticultural Fence Construction																																																		
Plant Production from Seed																																																		
Drainage 1: An Introduction	x					x																																												
Water Features																																																		
Rock Garden Construction					x									x																																				
Heritage Gardening																																																		
Plantsmanship																																																		
Horticultural Therapy																																																		
Garden Design																																																		
Home and Allotment Gardening	x																																																	

	Soils and Growing Mediums in Horticulture	Plant Identification	Plant Husbandry: Common Disorders	Basic Botany	Planting and Maintenance	Horticultural Machinery: Operation and Maintenance	Plant Nutrition	Horticultural Fence Construction	Plant Production from Seed	Drainage 1: An Introduction	Water Features	Rock Garden Construction	Heritage Gardening	Plantsmanship	Horticultural Therapy	Garden Design	Home and Allotment Gardening	Lawns and Lawn : An Introduction	Setting Out Landscape Areas	Pesticide Application	Computer Aided Drafting: Landbased Industries	Landscape Construction: An Introduction	Protected Crop Production: Pot Plants	Plant Display	Trowel Skills for Landscape Construction	Drystone Dykes: Building and Repairing	Estate Maintenance: An Introduction	Use of Hand Tools in Horticulture	Soft Landscaping: General Plantings	Vegetative Propagation	Soft Landscaping: Trees and Shrubs	Laying Slabs and Paving: An Introduction	Soft Landscaping: Specialist Plantings	Bedding Plant Production	Soft Landscaping: Herbaceous Perennials	Construction Materials: An Introduction	Enterprise Activity (SCQF level 4/5)	Work Experience (SCQF level 4/5)	Skills for Customer Care (SCQF level 5)									
Lawns and Lawn : An Introduction						x																																										
Setting Out Landscape Areas					x																																											
Pesticide Application			x		x																			x																								
Computer Aided Drafting: Landbased Industries																x																																
Landscape Construction: An Introduction											x	x																																				
Protected Crop Production: Pot Plants	x	x	x			x	x																																									
Plant Display		x	x		x		x					x		x										x																								
Trowel Skills for Landscape Construction										x	x																																					
Drystone Dykes: Building and Repairing																																																
Estate Maintenance: An Introduction																																																
Use of Hand Tools in Horticulture					x			x		x	x	x			x		x	x																														
Soft Landscaping: General Plantings	x	x	x																																													
Vegetative Propagation	x	x					x																																									

	Soils and Growing Mediums in Horticulture	Plant Identification	Plant Husbandry: Common Disorders	Basic Botany	Planting and Maintenance	Horticultural Machinery: Operation and Maintenance	Plant Nutrition	Horticultural Fence Construction	Plant Production from Seed	Drainage 1: An Introduction	Water Features	Rock Garden Construction	Heritage Gardening	Plantsmanship	Horticultural Therapy	Garden Design	Home and Allotment Gardening	Lawns and Lawn : An Introduction	Setting Out Landscape Areas	Pesticide Application	Computer Aided Drafting: Landbased Industries	Landscape Construction: An Introduction	Protected Crop Production: Pot Plants	Plant Display	Trowel Skills for Landscape Construction	Drystone Dykes: Building and Repairing	Estate Maintenance: An Introduction	Use of Hand Tools in Horticulture	Soft Landscaping: General Plantings	Vegetative Propagation	Soft Landscaping: Trees and Shrubs	Laying Slabs and Paving: An Introduction	Soft Landscaping: Specialist Plantings	Bedding Plant Production	Soft Landscaping: Herbaceous Perennials	Construction Materials: An Introduction	Enterprise Activity (SCQF level 4/5)	Work Experience (SCQF level 4/5)	Skills for Customer Care (SCQF level 5)					
Soft Landscaping: Trees and Shrubs		x			x	x	x																																					
Laying Slabs and Paving: An Introduction																			x																									
Soft Landscaping: Specialist Plantings	x	x			x									x										x																				
Bedding Plant Production	x	x			x	x	x		x					x		x								x				x	x															
Soft Landscaping: Herbaceous Perennials	x	x			x									x		x								x																				
Construction Materials: An Introduction											x	x																																
Enterprise Activity (SCQF level 4/5)											x	x												x																				
Work Experience (SCQF level 4/5)																																												
Skills for Customer Care (SCQF level 5)																																												

Appendix D: Potential Delivery Schedule

	Block 1				Block 2			Block 3			
	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
Soils and Growing Mediums in Horticulture				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Plant Identification	•	•	•	•				•	•	•	•
Plant Husbandry: Common Disorders	•	•	•	•				•	•	•	•
Basic Botany	•	•	•	•				•	•	•	•
Planting and Maintenance	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Horticultural Machinery: Operation and Maintenance	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Plant Nutrition	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				
Horticultural Fence Construction					•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Plant Production from Seed	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Drainage 1: An Introduction	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				
Water Features				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Rock Garden Construction				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Heritage Gardening	•	•	•	•				•	•	•	•
Plantsmanship	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Horticultural Therapy					•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Garden Design	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				
Home and Allotment Gardening				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Lawns and Lawn : An Introduction	•	•	•	•				•	•	•	•
Setting Out Landscape Areas						•	•	•	•	•	•
Pesticide Application						•	•	•	•	•	•
Computer Aided Drafting: Landbased Industries	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Landscape Construction: An Introduction	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Protected Crop Production: Pot Plants					•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Plant Display					•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Trowel Skills for Landscape Construction	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Drystone Dykes: Building and Repairing	•	•	•	•				•	•	•	•
Estate Maintenance: An Introduction	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				
Use of Hand Tools in Horticulture	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Soft Landscaping: General Plantings	•	•	•	•				•	•	•	•
Vegetative Propagation	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Soft Landscaping: Trees and Shrubs	•	•	•	•				•	•	•	•
Laying Slabs and Paving: An Introduction	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Soft Landscaping: Specialist Plantings	•	•	•	•				•	•	•	•
Bedding Plant Production					•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Soft Landscaping: Herbaceous Perennials	•	•	•	•				•	•	•	•
Construction Materials: An Introduction	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				
Enterprise Activity (SCQF level 4/5)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Work Experience (SCQF level 4/5)					•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Skills for Customer Care (SCQF level 5)					•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Appendix E: Progression Table

