



## **Group Award Specification for:**

**Professional Development Award (PDA) in Strategic Leadership (SCQF level 11)**

**Group Award Code: GM7C 51**

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# 1 Introduction

This document was previously known as the arrangements document. The purpose of this document is to:

- ◆ assist centres to implement, deliver and manage the qualification
- ◆ provide a guide for new staff involved in offering the qualification
- ◆ inform course managers teaching staff, assessors, candidates, employers and HEIs of the aims and purpose of the qualification
- ◆ provide details of the range of candidates the qualification is suitable for and progression opportunities

The Professional Development Award (PDA) in Strategic Leadership at SCQF level 11 is part of a suite of Professional Development Awards (PDAs) in Management and Leadership at SCQF level 7 to SCQF level 11 which have been developed under the SQA Design Principles for Professional Development Awards. These PDAs have been deliberately designed as short stand-alone awards containing two units, which will enable candidates to enhance their managerial skills and achieve certification in a relatively short period of time.

All the units included in these PDAs have been developed by the Skills CFA, the standards setting body for management and leadership throughout the UK. These are the units which form the basis of the SVQs in Management. The PDA awards, therefore, consist of units which also form part of an SVQ in Management.

The PDAs within this suite are designed to meet the needs of those who wish to develop as managers through their own experience in the workplace, ie they are targeted at those who wish to follow a work-based path to management qualifications but do not wish to embark on a full SVQ Management award.

Candidates who achieve one/some of these Management and Leadership PDAs should, therefore, have enhanced their managerial competences, including their knowledge and understanding, through development within the context of their current managerial work. In this way, they should be able to work more effectively as managers to the benefit of themselves and to the organisations for which they work. They will also have demonstrated that they are able to work in accordance with the national occupational standards for managers.

These work-based PDAs are a suite of seven short stand-alone awards which extend and complement the portfolio of management awards offered by SQA. These PDAs share a number of common aims and characteristics and, as a result, it has been possible to develop them as a cluster of related awards. Each award, however, is a qualification in its own right. A table showing these seven PDAs in Management and Leadership, together with PDAs in Leadership and Management (consisting of HN Units) and new flexible PDAs (consisting of HN, SVQ and National Workplace Units) can be found at Appendix 1.

The Chartered Management Institute (CMI) has agreed to jointly certificate the PDA in Strategic Leadership at SCQF level 11 — together with all other Management awards in SQA's portfolio, including SVQs in Management, HNC in Management and Leadership, PDA Diploma in Management and Leadership and all other PDAs in Leadership and Management.

## 1.1 Rationale for the development of the PDA in Strategic Leadership (SCQF level 11)

The PDA in Strategic Leadership at SCQF level 11 offers candidates the opportunity to develop their management competence in two of the areas identified by the Skills CFA, ie providing direction and achieving results. Candidates who successfully complete the award will gain a number of benefits, including:

- ◆ knowledge and understanding of the different theories, models and styles of leadership and how to select and successfully apply these to different people and situations.
- ◆ capability to benchmark the performance of their organisation against other organisations.
- ◆ capability to inspire, motivate and empower people.
- ◆ capability to implement changes which will add value in the eyes of customers and other key stakeholders.
- ◆ capability to create and maintain a culture within the organisation which encourages creativity and innovation.

The above should ensure that candidates possess the skills and competence to provide direction for people in the organisation and enable, inspire, motivate and support them to achieve what the organisation has set out to do including, overseeing the continuous improvement of the overall performance of the organisation.

Both the units of the PDA are at SCQF level 11, which makes it a demanding PDA for candidates. Both units in the PDA are mandatory Units in the SVQ in Management at SCQF level 11.

The levelling of the units in the SVQ Management also highlights the fact that eligibility for this PDA, as with all others in the suite of PDAs, is determined by the occupational role filled by potential candidates. It is open to those who are involved with providing leadership within their organisation and improving organisational performance.

This PDA focuses on two of the Skills CFA areas of competence — providing direction and achieving results. After completion of the PDA, candidates should have demonstrated that they are competent in providing leadership for people in their organisation and also improving performance in their organisation.

The PDAs in Management and Leadership are designed to both complement and provide an introduction to other SQA awards, ie they consist of units from the SVQ Management framework.

There also is a parallel suite of PDAs in Leadership and Management (included in Appendix 1) which link to the more extensive HNC Management and Leadership and the Diploma in Management and Leadership. These awards are distinct from SVQ awards in that they do not require that candidates are in a management position. Unlike the SVQ Management, it is not a condition of these awards that candidates provide evidence of their work as managers in order to demonstrate their managerial competence. They are suitable therefore for both practising and aspirant managers. Aspirant managers can include those who hope to take up a management position, as well as those who are currently fulfilling a management role but wish to develop knowledge, skills and understanding which will fit them to take up a more senior position. The HNC Management and Leadership and similar qualifications may help candidates to meet the knowledge requirements of awards consisting of SVQ units.

SQA has also developed a more flexible suite of PDAs at SCQF levels 6, 7, 8 and 9. Each PDA is made up of a number of HN, SVQ and National Workplace Units. To achieve these PDAs, candidates must select one unit from a restricted mandatory section and one unit for a bank of options. (See Appendix 1 for more details)

## 2 Qualification structure

The PDA in Strategic Leadership at SCQF level 11 consists of two units, both of which are mandatory:

### 2.1 Structure

4 code	2 code	SSC unit code	Unit title	SQA credit	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
H8GW	04	CFAM&LBA1	Lead Your Organisation	1	13	11
HK3G	04	CFAM&LFE5	Manage Continuous Improvement	1	14	11
Total				2	20	11

The PDA in Strategic Leadership at SCQF level 11 will be achieved on successful completion of these two mandatory units. It has been levelled at SCQF level 11 as all SCQF points are at SCQF level 11.

## 3 Aims of the qualification

The aim of the PDA in Strategic Leadership is to offer candidates the opportunity to develop their management competence in providing direction and achieving results:

### 3.1 General aims of the qualification

Each PDA in Management and Leadership has its own individual aims but, as a group, they share the following general aims:

- 1 enable candidates to develop and achieve competence in a specific area of managerial work.
- 2 provide recognition for the management competence achieved by candidates in their work as a manager.
- 3 meet the needs of candidates with different experience and different managerial responsibilities (by providing awards at SCQF level 7 to SCQF level 11 and covering different areas of managerial competence).
- 4 enable progression within the SVQ Management framework and within the SCQF framework of qualifications.
- 5 provide flexibility for candidates and centres through alternative ways to undertake Units in SVQ Management.
- 6 enable candidates to acquire underpinning knowledge and understanding of key management concepts and ideas.
- 7 enable candidates to develop generic skills which can apply across the whole range of managerial work.

## 3.2 Specific aims of the qualification

In addition to the general aims outlined above, the PDA in Strategic Leadership at SCQF level 11 has some specific aims. It will allow candidates to:

- 8 develop capacity to confidently lead and deliver service and corporate improvement.
- 9 enhance their ability to effectively plan and implement strategic change.
- 10 improve their self awareness and judgement to make them more confident decision makers.

## 4 Recommended entry to the qualification

Entry to this qualification is at the discretion of the centre. The following information on prior knowledge, skills, experience or qualifications that provide suitable preparation for this qualification has been provided as guidance only.

As the PDAs in Management and Leadership are based on SVQ Management units, they are designed as work-based awards aimed at persons currently fulfilling the occupational role which is the subject of the SVQ. In line with the assessment strategy developed for SVQs in Management, access to the PDAs in Management and Leadership is open only to those who currently occupy a management role which enables them to display competence at the level of the standards which make up the award. The nature and level of the management role may vary depending on the level of PDA involved. More information on the assessment strategy can be found later in Appendix 3.

It is therefore the responsibility of centres to ensure that candidates attempting the PDAs in Management and Leadership based on SVQ units are currently engaged in a management role which is appropriate for the PDA they wish to undertake. There should, however, be no artificial barriers to entry and the award should be open to all candidates who are in a suitable managerial post.

Whilst entry to the PDA in Strategic Leadership at SCQF level 11 is at the discretion of the centre, eligible managers should have current experience in a managerial role which will enable them to demonstrate the competences of the two units in this PDA. Both units in this PDA have been levelled at SCQF level 11. Before commencing the award, candidates should be able to show that they have the requisite background to attempt a unit at SCQF level 11. In particular they should be able to demonstrate appropriate written and oral communications skills for units at this Level and the capacity to be able to grasp the underpinning knowledge and understanding required for a PDA at this SCQF level.

## 4.1 Core Skills entry profile

The Core Skill entry profile provides a summary of the associated assessment activities that exemplify why a particular level has been recommended for this qualification. The information should be used to identify if additional learning support needs to be put in place for candidates whose Core Skills profile is below the recommended entry level or whether candidates should be encouraged to do an alternative level or learning programme.

<b>Core Skill</b>	<b>Recommended SCQF entry profile</b>	<b>Associated assessment activities</b>
Communication	SCQF level 6	Candidates should be able to demonstrate appropriate written and oral communications skills for units at this Level and the capacity to be able to grasp the underpinning knowledge and understanding required for a PDA at SCQF level 11.
Numeracy	SCQF level 5	Candidates will need good numeracy skills to be able to develop and measure the effectiveness of their improvement plans.
Problem Solving	SCQF level 6	Candidates need well developed problem solving skills to lead the organisation and manage the continuous improvement of the overall performance of their organisation. They will need to analyse information and identify opportunities where performance could be improved.
Working with Others	SCQF level 6	Candidates need well developed skills in working with others as they are required to provide direction to people in their organisation and enable, inspire, motivate and support them to achieve what their organisation has set out to do.

## 5 Additional benefits of the qualification in meeting employer needs

This qualification was designed to meet a specific purpose and what follows are details on how that purpose has been met through mapping of the units to the aims of the qualification. Through meeting the aims, additional value has been achieved by linking the unit standards with those defined in national occupational standards and/or trade/professional body requirements. In addition, significant opportunities exist for candidates to develop the more generic skill, known as Core Skills through doing this qualification.

## 5.1 Mapping of qualification aims to units

Code	Unit title	Aims										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
H8GW 04	Lead Your Organisation	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
HK3G 04	Manage Continuous Improvement	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

- 1 enable candidates to develop and achieve competence in a specific area of managerial work.
- 2 provide recognition for the management competence achieved by candidates in their work as a manager.
- 3 meet the needs of candidates with different experience and different managerial responsibilities (by providing awards at SCQF level 7 to SCQF level 11 and covering different areas of managerial competence).
- 4 enable progression within the SVQ Management framework and within the SCQF framework of qualifications.
- 5 provide flexibility for candidates and centres through alternative ways to undertake units in SVQ Management.
- 6 enable candidates to acquire underpinning knowledge and understanding of key management concepts and ideas.
- 7 enable candidates to develop generic skills which can apply across the whole range of managerial work.
- 8 develop capacity to confidently lead and deliver service and corporate improvement.
- 9 enhance their ability to effectively plan and implement strategic change.
- 10 improve their self awareness and judgement to make them more confident decision makers.

## 5.2 Mapping of National Occupational Standards (NOS) and/or trade body standards

The units making up the PDA in Strategic Leadership at SCQF level 11 are the NOS developed by Skills CFA, the standards setting body for management:

CFAM&LBA1    Lead Your Organisation  
 CFAM&LFE5    Manage Continuous Improvement

### 5.3 Mapping of Core Skills development opportunities across the qualification

There are opportunities to develop the following core skills but there is no automatic certification of these core skills.

Unit code	Unit title	Communication	Numeracy	ICT	Problem Solving	Working with Others
H8GW 04	Lead Your Organisation	SCQF level 6	SCQF level 5		SCQF level 5	SCQF level 6
HK3G 04	Manage Continuous Improvement	SCQF level 6	SCQF level 6		SCQF level 6	SCQF level 6

### 5.4 Assessment strategy for the qualification

The assessment strategy for the PDA in Strategic Leadership at SCQF level 11 can be found in Appendix 3. As this PDA is made up of SVQ units, the evidence generated must come from real work activities.

## 6 Guidance on approaches to delivery and assessment

The delivery and assessment of the PDA in Strategic Leadership at SCQF level 11 is governed by the assessment strategy for the SVQ Management. This is based on the principles set out by the Skills CFA and is reproduced in Appendix 3. Centres must abide by the requirements of this assessment strategy.

It is expected that centres will deliver the PDA in Strategic Leadership at SCQF level 11 using the methods which they know from past experience comply with the assessment strategy. This PDA is a workplace award and candidates will be based at work and complete the units while carrying out their everyday tasks as a manager.

Predominantly, delivery and assessment in centres is based on a portfolio of evidence gathered by the candidate. This has to be presented in a manner which indicates that the candidate is able, through their work as a manager, to meet the components of the standards as set out in the SVQ Management units.

Candidates are guided through the process of portfolio building by an assessor/adviser who helps them to prepare and implement assessment plans and offers guidance and support. In many centres, the role of adviser and assessor are combined and one person fills both roles. Traditionally, portfolios were paper based but e-portfolios have become common. It is expected that e-portfolios will be widely used for the delivery and assessment of the PDA in Strategic Leadership at SCQF level 11.

Some centres cover the knowledge and understanding requirements by using specific questions which candidates have to answer. Others encourage candidates to meet the knowledge and understanding requirements through the personal statements which explain how the evidence submitted demonstrate competence against the performance criteria and behaviours in the SVQ Management units. Any gaps in the knowledge requirements can be filled by asking the candidate to respond to specific questions.

An example of a training provider and employer partnership approach to the delivery of the PDA is highlighted below. This programme includes eight taught sessions which are delivered over eight weeks (half day per week):

Part 1 covers a pre programme evaluation of the candidate's current strengths and areas for development.

Part 2 is the half day taught session per week for eight consecutive weeks focusing on research based leadership theory and reinforced by issues that are real to the organisation. This covers sessions such as:

- ◆ Fit for the future
- ◆ Leadership and leaders
- ◆ Values, purpose and vision
- ◆ Putting vision into practice
- ◆ Benchmarking and measuring improvement
- ◆ Taking people with you
- ◆ Changing culture

Part 3 is the key driver of the programme and is designed to support candidates as they develop and hone their leadership skills and put them into effective practice. Candidates will select and deliver a corporate project which will provide the high level evidence required to achieve the SCQF level 11 units. This part of the programme will run in parallel to the eight taught sessions.

Part 4 is the evaluation and reflection stage.

## 6.1 Sequencing/integration of units

The PDA in Strategic Leadership at SCQF level 11 is made up of two units. The units link closely together. The section above provides an example of a training provider's approach to the delivery of this PDA.

## 6.2 Recognition of prior learning

SQA recognises that candidates gain knowledge and skills acquired through formal, non-formal and informal learning contexts.

In some instances, a full group award may be achieved through the recognition of prior learning. However, it is unlikely that a candidate would have the appropriate prior learning and experience to meet all the requirements of a full group award.

The recognition of prior learning may not be used as a method of assessing in the following types of units and assessments:

- ◆ HN Graded Units
- ◆ Course and/or external assessments
- ◆ Other integrative assessment units (which may or not be graded)
- ◆ Certain types of assessment instruments where the standard may be compromised by not using the same assessment method outlined in the unit
- ◆ Where there is an existing requirement for a licence to practice
- ◆ Where there are specific health and safety requirements
- ◆ Where there are regulatory, professional or other statutory requirements
- ◆ Where otherwise specified in an assessment strategy

More information and guidance on the *Recognition of Prior Learning* (RPL) may be found on our website [www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk).

The following sub-sections outline how existing SQA unit(s) may contribute to this group award. Additionally, they also outline how this group award may be recognised for professional and articulation purposes.

### 6.2.1 Articulation and/or progression

Possible pathways and progression routes are outlined in Appendix 2.

The PDA in Strategic Leadership at SCQF level 11 is not intended solely as a vehicle for progression. However, both units are mandatory units in SVQ in Management at SCQF level 11. Therefore, candidates who complete this PDA could, depending on their experience and level of managerial responsibility, progress to a full SVQ in Management at SCQF level 11.

Candidates who complete this PDA will have gained 2 of the 7 units of the full SVQ in Management at SCQF level 11.

The PDA is also an award which will fully meet the management education needs of some candidates who would not wish to undertake further awards. It is hoped, however, that the PDA will provide an opening for all successful candidates to enhance their professional development after completing the award.

## **6.2.2 Professional recognition**

The Chartered Management Institute jointly certifies the PDA in with SQA. This will enable candidates to progress within the CMI framework of qualifications.

## **6.3 Opportunities for e-assessment**

It has already been noted that the PDA in Strategic Leadership at SCQF level 11 is a workplace award. While most candidates will have face to face contact with assessors through regular meetings, it is also possible for candidates to complete the awards remotely and maintain contact through e-mail or other methods. The use of electronic portfolios greatly facilitates working with remote candidates. Further information on open and distance learning is available at [www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk).

## **6.4 Support materials**

Candidates registered on the PDA in Strategic Leadership are eligible for 12 months free studying membership of CMI which allows them access to a range of management information, tools and support materials.

## **6.5 Resource requirements**

The assessment strategy outlined in Appendix 3 provides details of the occupational requirements of assessors and internal verifiers.

As this PDA is made up of SVQ units, evidence must come from actual workplace activities.

# **7 General information for centres**

## **Equality and inclusion**

The unit specifications making up this group award have been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of candidates will be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence. Further advice can be found on our website [www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements](http://www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements).

## **Internal and external verification**

All instruments of assessment used within this/these qualification(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/GuideToAssessment](http://www.sqa.org.uk/GuideToAssessment)).

## 8 Glossary of terms

**Embedded Core Skills:** is where the assessment evidence for the unit also includes full evidence for complete Core Skill or Core Skill components. A candidate successfully completing the unit will be automatically certificated for the Core Skill. (This depends on the unit having been successfully audited and validated for Core Skills certification.)

**Finish date:** The end of a group award's lapsing period is known as the finish date. After the finish date, the group award will no longer be live and the following applies:

- ◆ candidates may not be entered for the group award
- ◆ the group award will continue to exist only as an archive record on the Awards Processing System (APS)

**Lapsing date:** When a group award is entered into its lapsing period, the following will apply:

- ◆ the group award will be deleted from the relevant catalogue
- ◆ the group award specification will remain until the qualification reaches its finish date at which point it will be removed from SQA's website and archived
- ◆ no new centres may be approved to offer the group award
- ◆ centres should only enter candidates whom they expect to complete the group award during the defined lapsing period

**SQA credit value:** The credit value allocated to a unit gives an indication of the contribution the unit makes to an SQA group award. An SQA credit value of 1 given to an SQA unit represents approximately 40 hours of programmed learning, teaching and assessment.

**SCQF:** The Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework (SCQF) provides the national common framework for describing all relevant programmes of learning and qualifications in Scotland. SCQF terminology is used throughout this guide to refer to credits and levels. For further information on the SCQF visit the SCQF website at [www.scqf.org.uk](http://www.scqf.org.uk).

**SCQF credit points:** SCQF credit points provide a means of describing and comparing the amount of learning that is required to complete a qualification at a given level of the Framework. One National Unit credit is equivalent to 6 SCQF credit points. One National Unit credit at Advanced Higher and one Higher National Unit credit (irrespective of level) is equivalent to 8 SCQF credit points.

**SCQF levels:** The level a qualification is assigned within the framework is an indication of how hard it is to achieve. The SCQF covers 12 levels of learning. HNCs and HNDs are available at SCQF levels 7 and 8 respectively. Higher National units will normally be at levels 6–9 and Graded units will be at level 7 and 8. 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.

**Signposted Core Skills:** refers to opportunities to develop Core Skills arise in learning and teaching but are not automatically certificated.

## 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. Centres are advised to check SQA's APS Navigator to confirm they are using the up to date qualification structure.

**NOTE:** Where a unit is revised by another unit:

- ◆ No new centres may be approved to offer the unit which has been revised.
- ◆ Centres should only enter candidates for the unit which has been revised where they are expected to complete the unit before its finish date.

Version Number	Description	Date

## Acknowledgement

SQA acknowledges the valuable contribution that Scotland's colleges have made to the development of this qualification.

## 9 General information for candidates

This section will help you decide whether this is the qualification for you by explaining what the qualification is about, what you should know or be able to do before you start, what you will need to do during the qualification and opportunities for further learning and employment.

Welcome to the Professional Development Award (PDA) in Strategic Leadership at SCQF level 11. You have just made a vitally important decision for your work as a manager and leader and we are delighted that you have decided to study for your PDA in Strategic Leadership at SCQF level 11. We hope that this is an enjoyable and stimulating learning experience for you.

The award makes use of the National Occupational Standards (NOS) for management and leadership as specified by the Skills CFA. The NOS are at the forefront of current management practices within leading organisations.

It means that by doing the award you will be able to demonstrate that, in your work as a manager, you are able to operate in accordance with these national standards. Success in the award will mean that you will have proof that your work is up to the national standards. In this way you can contribute to your own future and to that of the organisation you work for.

The PDA in Strategic Leadership at SCQF level 11 is made up of two mandatory units:

- ◆ *Lead for your organisation*
- ◆ *Manage continuous improvement*

Each unit contains performance criteria and underpinning knowledge and understanding and each will enable you to develop different management competences. Each unit, therefore, contains aspects of the management standards. In other words, if you meet the requirements of the unit, you will be managing in accordance with the national standards.

The unit *Lead for Your Organisation* will help you to develop your leadership skills by providing direction to people in the organisation and enabling, inspiring, motivating and supporting them to achieve what the organisation has set out to do.

The unit *Manage Continuous Improvement* is closely linked to *Lead for your organisation*. It will enable you to oversee continuous improvement of the overall performance of the organisation. The emphasis of this unit is very much on identifying and implementing changes which will add value in the eyes of customers and other key stakeholders.

You will be guided through the units by an adviser/assessor who will help you plan for assessment and advise and help you on how to prove that you can meet the standards in the units.

You will prove that you can meet the standards by gathering evidence from your place of work of the things that you have done, and are doing, as a manager. You will be expected to explain to your assessor, in writing or by discussion, exactly how the evidence that you have, shows that you meet the standards set out in the requirements of the units. You will gather your evidence together in a portfolio which you will be able to use to prove that you are a competent manager in terms of those parts of the national standards covered by the PDA.

The PDA is a qualification in its own right but it will also help you to progress to further management awards such as the full SVQ in Management at SCQF level 11.

The PDA is jointly certificated by SQA and the Chartered Management Institute. While undertaking the PDA in Strategic Leadership, you are eligible for 12 months free studying membership of CMI which allows you access to a range of management information, tools and materials.

On successful completion of the PDA, you will be able to apply for membership of CMI which means you can become part of the professional community of managers and benefit from the development opportunities that this can bring.

Good luck with your studies.

## Appendix 1 Suite of PDAs in Leadership and Management

(PDAs based on SVQ units)

Title of PDA	Revised units	SCQF credits points
<b>PDA in Managing Self and the Work of Others at SCQF level 7 (GM72 47)</b>	AA2 (HK26 04) Develop Your Knowledge, Skills And Competence (level 7, credits 6) DB4 (HA9V 04) Manage People's Performance at Work (level 7, credits 14)	20
<b>PDA in Leadership and Management of the Work of Others at SCQF level 7 (GM74 47)</b>	BA2 (H8GY 04) Provide Leadership In Your Area of Responsibility (level 8, credits 9) DB4 (HA9V 04) Manage People's Performance at Work (level 7, credits 14)	23
<b>PDA in Leadership at SCQF level 8 (GM7G 48)</b>	BA2 (H8GY 04) Provide Leadership in Your Area of Responsibility (level 8, credits 9) BA9 (H68E 04) Develop Operational Plans (level 8, credits 11 )	20
<b>PDA in Managing Finances at SCQF level 8 (GM6Y 48)</b>	EA4 (H68K 04) Manage Budgets (level 7, credits 11) EA3 (H5K4 04) Manage the Use of Financial Resources (level 8, credits 14)	25
<b>PDA in Managing Projects and Business Processes at SCQF level 9 (GM71 49)</b>	FA5 (H8H0 04) Manage Projects (level 8, credits 11) FA3 (HK32 04) Manage Business Processes (level 9, credits 15)	26
<b>PDA in Planning and Implementing Change at SCQF level 9 (GM7E 49)</b>	CA4 (HF80 04) Implement Change (level 8, credits 11) CA2 (HK2A 04) Plan Change (level 9, credits 15)	26
<b>PDA in Strategic Leadership (GM7C 51)</b>	BA1 (H8GW 04) Lead Your Organisation (level 11, credits 13) FE5 (HK3G 04) Manage Continuous Improvement (level 11, credits 11)	24

**(PDAs based on HN units)**

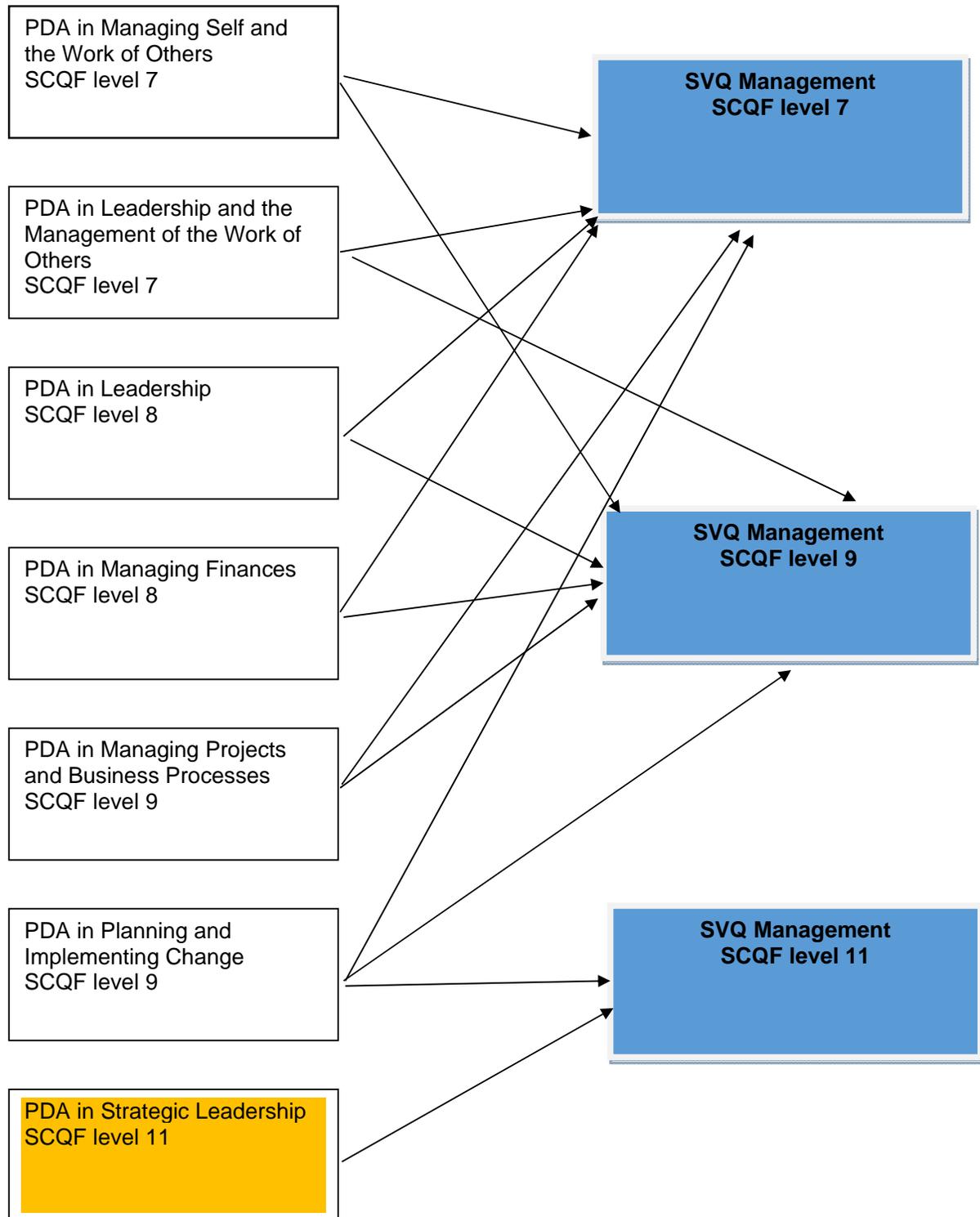
<b>Titles of PDA</b>	<b>Units making up the PDA</b>	<b>SCQF Credit Points</b>
PDA in Management at SCQF level 6 (G972 46)	Managing Self and Resources (F3XP 33) Working in a Team (F3XR 33)	16
PDA in Managing Self and Others at SCQF level 7 (G9CR 47)	Management: Developing Self Management Skills (H1F1 34) Managing and Working with People (H1F4 34)	24
PDA in Managing Self and Others at SCQF level 8 (G9CT 48)	Develop Skills for Personal Effectiveness (DF4F35) Managing People (F5GF 35)	24
PDA in Managing Resources and Quality at SCQF level 7 (G9CP 47)	Manage Operational Resources (H1F5 34) Management of Quality (DW6G 34)	32
PDA in Leadership and Change at SCQF level 8 (G9CN 48)	Management: Leadership at Work (H1F2 34) Management: Plan, Lead and Implement Change (H1F3 35)	16
PDA in Project Management at SCQF level 8 (G9CK 48)	Project Management: Project Justification and Planning (DV5H 35) Project Management: Managing the Implementation of a Project (DV5J 35)	24
PDA in Strategic Management at SCQF level 8 (GF93 48)	Management: Strategic Change (H1S6 35) Management: Develop Strategic Plans (H1S7 35)	16
PDA in Organisational Leadership at SCQF level 9 (G9CV 49)	Management: Organisational Leadership and Development (H1S8 35) Leadership for Managers (F5GH 36)	24
PDA in Decision Making and Innovation at SCQF level 9 (G9CM 49)	Decision Making for Managers (F5GG 36) Management: Organisational Innovation (DV80 36)	24
PDA in Organisational Ethics and Decision Making SCQF level 11 (G9M9 51)	Organisational Ethics (F8K9 39) Organisational Decision Making (F8KA 39)	32

## **Flexible PDAs in Leadership and Management**

(Each PDA is made up of SVQ, HN and National Workplace Units. To achieve one of the flexible PDAs, candidates select one unit from a restricted mandatory section and one optional unit from a wide range of options)

- GM0L 46 PDA in Introductory Leadership and Management at SCQF level 6
- GL9D 47 PDA in Team Leadership and Management at SCQF level 7
- GM0C 48 PDA in Operational Leadership and Management at SCQF level 8
- GM0M 46 PDA in Strategic Leadership and Management at SCQF level 9

## Appendix 2 Possible pathways and progression routes





# **Assessment strategy**

**for**

# **PDA in Leadership and Management**

# 1 Introduction

This assessment strategy provides the criteria SQA approved centres must meet for the assessment of the PDAs in Leadership and Management

This document outlines the criteria in relation to:

- ◆ requirements of assessors/tutors and internal verifiers
- ◆ evidence

A list of the PDAs covered by this assessment strategy is included in Appendix 1.

## 2 Requirements of assessors/tutors and internal verifiers

### 2.1 Assessors

The primary responsibility of an assessor is to assess candidates' performance in a range of tasks and to ensure the evidence submitted by the candidate meets the requirements of the assessment criteria.

It is important that an assessor can recognise competence as specified by the national standard. Assessors therefore need to have a thorough understanding of assessment and quality assurance practices, as well as have in-depth technical understanding related to the qualifications for which they are assessing candidates.

To assess candidates undertaking a PDA in Leadership and Management, assessors must:

For SVQ units:

- ◆ be occupationally competent. Assessors must provide current evidence of competence, knowledge and understanding in the areas to be assessed. This must be demonstrated by relevant experience and continuing professional development (CPD) which may include the achievement of qualification(s) at a commensurate level, relevant to the areas being assessed.
- ◆ hold, or be working towards, an appropriate qualification as specified by the appropriate regulatory authority, confirming their competence to assess candidates undertaking competence-based units and qualifications. Assessors holding older qualifications must be able to demonstrate that they are assessing to the current standards through up to date CPD.

Assessors working towards an appropriate qualification must be supported by a qualified assessor throughout the period of completing the qualification. This support may be provided by a qualified assessor and/or qualified internal verifier.

For HN and National Workplace Units:

- ◆ competent in the subject/occupational area to a level appropriate to the qualification
- ◆ competent in assessment of the type involved in the qualification
- ◆ familiar with the procedures and documentation for the qualification

## 2.2 Internal verifiers

The primary responsibility of internal verifiers is to assure the quality and consistency of assessments by assessors. Internal verifiers therefore need to have a thorough understanding of quality assurance and assessment practices, as well as sufficient technical understanding of the qualifications that they are internally verifying.

To internally verify a PDA in Leadership and Management, internal verifiers must:

For SVQ units:

- ◆ be occupationally competent. Internal verifiers must demonstrate sufficient and current understanding of the qualifications to be internally verified, and know how they are applied in business. This must be demonstrated by relevant experience and CPD which may include the achievement of qualification(s) at a commensurate level, relevant to the areas being assessed.
- ◆ hold, or be working towards, an appropriate qualification as specified by the appropriate regulatory authority, confirming their competence to internally verify assessment of competence-based units and qualifications. Internal verifiers holding older qualifications must be able to demonstrate that they are assessing to the current standards through up to date CPD.

Internal verifiers working towards an appropriate qualification must be supported by a qualified internal verifier throughout the period of completing the qualification. This must include monitoring of verification decisions which may be achieved by sampling of reports and evidence by a qualified internal verifier.

For HN and National Workplace Units:

- ◆ competent in the subject/occupational area to a level appropriate to the qualification
- ◆ competent in internal verification of the type involved in the qualification
- ◆ familiar with the procedures and documentation for the qualification

## 2.3 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Records

The assessment strategy requires all assessors and internal verifiers to maintain current competence in leadership and Management and quality assurance and assessment practices to deliver these functions. SQA recognises this can be achieved in many ways. However, such information must be formally recorded in individual CPD records that are maintained in centres and available to SQA on request.

## **3 Evidence**

### **3.1 Evidence from workplace performance**

- ◆ Evidence of occupational competence for all SVQ units at all levels must be generated and collected through performance in the workplace.
- ◆ Performance evidence must be produced for all performance indicators in all units. Simulation and/or supporting evidence may be used by exception to fill small gaps where performance evidence does not occur naturally but the unit is part of the candidate's normal work duties. The use of simulation and/or supporting evidence for performance must be restricted to a small part of any unit.

### **3.2 Evidence from classroom based activities**

- ◆ The units making up the PDAs in Leadership and Management are assessed in a variety of ways, for example, reports, extended responses, open book and closed book examinations. Full details of the evidence requirements and assessment guidance are provided in each unit specification which is available to download from SQA's website. Centres should consider the requirements of the units making up the PDA carefully in deciding on the appropriate assessor

## **PDA in Leadership and Management**

### **SCQF level 6**

PDA in Management at SCQF level 6 (G972 46)

PDA in Introductory Leadership and Management SCQF level 6 (GM0L 46)

### **SCQF level 7**

PDA in Managing Self and Others at SCQF level 7 (G9CR 47)

PDA in Managing Self and the Work of Others at SCQF level 7 (GM72 47)

PDA in Leadership and Management of the Work of Others (GM74 47)

PDA in Managing Resources and Quality at SCQF level 7 (G9CP 47)

PDA in Team Leadership and Management SCQF level 7 (GL9D 47)

### **SCQF level 8**

PDA in Leadership and Change at SCQF level 8 (G9CN 48)

PDA in Managing Self and Others at SCQF level 8 (G9CT 48)

PDA in Project Management at SCQF level 8 (G9CK 48)

PDA in Operational Leadership and Management SCQF level 8 (GM0C 48)

PDA in Leadership at SCQF level 8 (G9MN 48)

PDA in Managing Finances at SCQF level 8 (GM6Y 48)

PDA in Strategic Management at SCQF level 8 (GF93 48)

### **SCQF level 9**

PDA in Strategic Leadership and Management SCQF level 9 (GM0M 49)

PDA in Organisational Leadership at SCQF level 9 (G9CV 49)

PDA in Decision Making and Innovation at SCQF level 9 (G9CM 49)

PDA in Managing Projects and Business Processes at SCQF level 9 (GM71 49)

PDA in Planning and Implementing Change at SCQF level 9 (GC6F 49)

PDA in Leading Change at SCQF level 9 (GC6G 49)

### **SCQF level 11**

PDA in Strategic Leadership at SCQF level 11 (GM7C 51)

PDA in Organisational Ethics and Decision Making SCQF level 11 (G9M9 51)