Arrangements for

HNC Horticulture	**G8P5 15**
HNC Landscape Management	**G8P4 15**
HNC Garden Design	**G8P3 15**
HND Horticulture	**G8P9 16**
HND Horticulture with	
Plantsmanship	**G8PD 16**
HND Garden Design	**G8PE 16**
HND Landscape Management	**G8PC 16**

Validation date: December 2006

Date of original publication: July 2008

Version: 03 (December 2014)

Acknowledgement

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
03	**Revision of Unit:** DK2K 34 Getting Started in Business *has been revised by* H7V4 34 Preparing to Start a Business *and will finish on* 31/07/2016.	15/12/14
02	**HNC Horticulture**: *Selection and Management of Machinery for Land Based Industries* (D4PE 34) added as an alternative to *Horticultural Mechanisation Principles* (F21P 34).	08/05/14
—	**Revision to Units**: D5MT 34 *Supervision to Management* has been revised by F5CP 34. D5P3 34 *Communication: Presenting Complex Communication for Vocational Purposes* has been revised by F69L 34. Both Finished 31/07/2010.	—

Contents

1 Introduction

This is the Arrangements Document for the suite of revised Group Awards for the Horticulture Sector which were validated in December 2006.This document refers to the seven Group Awards. The Titles of the proposed awards are as determined in 2001. The decision was taken to retain the original titles as they are well known to the sector in Scotland and internationally. The titles are:

♦ HNC Horticulture
♦ HNC Landscape Management
♦ HNC Garden Design
♦ HND Horticulture
♦ HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship
♦ HND Garden Design
♦ HND Landscape Management

The suite was devised by the Qualifications Design Team (QDT). The QDT is a consortium of the Land-based Colleges as follows:

♦ Scottish Agricultural College (SAC)
♦ Elmwood College
♦ Langside College
♦ Oatridge College
♦ Perth College
♦ Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RGBE)

The document includes:

♦ background information on the development of the awards
♦ aims of the awards
♦ guidance on access
♦ details of the Group Award structures
♦ guidance on delivery

2 Rationale for the revision of the Group Awards

2.2 Background to the development of the qualifications

2.2.1 General background

Higher National awards in the horticulture sector have been offered by SQA and its predecessor bodies in unitised format since 1989. This development is a revision of the awards validated in 2001 under the then Pilot Rules developed for the Modernisation of Higher National provision. This sector was one of three Pilot frameworks validated in 2001. Since then, the Pilot Rules have been substantially revised and all HN courses are now subject to new Design Principles. This revision of the Horticulture Suite is designed to update Unit content and frameworks where required and implement the new Design Principles, described in more detail below. The Suite of Higher National Qualifications for Horticulture have been offered by the land-based colleges within Scotland and are designed to articulate with degree provision at the Scottish Agricultural College.

Arrangements Document: HNC Horticulture (G8P5 15) HNC Landscape Management (G8P4 15) HNC Garden Design (G8P3 15) HND Horticulture (G8P9 16) HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship (G8PD 16) HND Garden Design (G8PE 16) HND Landscape Management (G8PC 16)

1

In 1999 SAC initiated a revision of the HN Horticulture and Landscape awards as part of the revalidation and development of the BSc/BSc (Hons) Horticulture, BSc/BSc (Hons) Horticulture with Plantsmanship and BSc/BSc (Hons) Landscape Management awards offered by SAC. These degrees with the 2006 addition of BSc/BSc(Hons) Horticulture in the Plantsmanship are now offered by SAC as the only degree level qualifications available in Scotland and are validated by the University of Glasgow. Having adopted common HN frameworks across Scotland, the intention to create seamless progression to degrees for candidates studying these HN awards has been achieved. The common frameworks have also ensured consistency and a national standard at HN level across Scotland. This rationalisation has been welcomed and supported by SQA and also by employers.

We have now revised the Suite in line with the agreed Design Principles for the Higher National Modernisation Programme and have taken the opportunity to update content in line with current practice and legislative requirements.

2.2.2 Development group

The revision of the awards was undertaken by the members of the group set up post-validation in 2001 to monitor the implementation of the suite validated that year. The new Qualifications Development Team (QDT) draws its members from all Colleges offering the current awards.

The QDT will continue to meet as a Qualifications Support Team (QST) to monitor implementation of the revised Suite on a twice-yearly basis. This group, supported by SQA, will address issues arising from implementation and recommend any necessary amendments to Unit content and frameworks and identify the need for new Units should changes in practice demand this.

2.3 Consultation

A major strength of the horticulture sector is the very strong link between education and industry. Members of the development team, and their college colleagues, have an on-going dialogue with all sectors of the industry, both formally and informally.

Validation of the BSc/BSc (Hons) Horticulture, BSc/BSc (Hons) Horticulture with Plantsmanship and the BSc/BSc (Hons) Landscape Management, of which these awards are an integral part, confirmed their relevance and educational value as progression routes to degree qualifications in this sector in Scotland.

To ensure that the revised awards will be fit for purpose, extensive consultation was carried out. This consultation involved:

♦ colleges and other centres offering the current HN awards or considering introducing these awards
♦ employers in the horticulture and landscape sectors
♦ students undertaking the existing awards
♦ Higher Education institutions and external examiners

Arrangements Document: HNC Horticulture (G8P5 15) HNC Landscape Management (G8P4 15) HNC Garden Design (G8P3 15) HND Horticulture (G8P9 16) HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship (G8PD 16) HND Garden Design (G8PE 16) HND Landscape Management (G8PC 16)

2

The consultations confirmed the demand for the proposed awards and their relevance and attractiveness to the Horticulture and Landscape sectors. Extensive use was also made of the Sector Skills Council, Lantra, Skills Survey published as '*Skills in the Land-based Sector*' (Lantra National Training Organisation Ltd, Kenilworth, Warwickshire), '*Key drivers of Skill Demand in the Environmental and Land-based Sector*' (Lantra SSC, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, 2005) and '*Skills Foresight 2000*' (Lantra National Training Organisation Ltd, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, 2000). This is the largest and most comprehensive survey carried out in the land-based industry for some time.

2.4   Links to SVQ/NVQs

The HN Horticulture and Landscape awards also contain the knowledge and understanding for some components of Scottish/National Vocational Qualifications (SVQ/NVQs) at levels 3 and 4.

If candidates gaining HN awards wish to undertake SVQs in the workplace then some of the knowledge and skills for some elements of the SVQs will have been covered in the HN awards.

2.5   Links to Professional Body qualifications

Graduates from the Horticulture programme will be eligible for Membership of the Institute of Horticulture as follows:

Associate Membership of the Institute of Horticulture:

Granted to those who have gained a Diploma in Horticulture.

Corporate Membership of the Institute of Horticulture:

Granted to those who have worked or studied as a Horticulturalist for at least seven years.

2.6   Background to the new Design Rules/Principles for Higher National Qualifications

In 1995 SQA (SCOTVEC) began a comprehensive review and consultation process regarding Higher National Qualifications. The main message resulting from this review was acceptance of the need to adjust these qualifications but not to make radical change to well-used and highly respected qualifications.

In 1998 changes were agreed to the design principles for Higher National Qualifications and a timescale for implementation established.

Key reasons for the agreed changes:

1   The implementation of the Higher Still initiative in session 1999/2000.
2   The recommendations of the Dearing and Garrick Committees on the role and nature of sub-degree education.
3   The review of all SVQs and NVQs.
4   The development of a Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) launched in 1999.

5   The need to ensure that all SQA qualifications continue to meet the needs of stakeholders, including candidates, employers and centres.
6   The growing importance of Core Skills in all SQA Group Awards at National level.

The agreed changes to Higher National Qualifications detailed below represent an enhancement rather than a root-and-branch change to the current system.

In summary the changes cover:

1   Design principles, eg credit value; level; mandatory sections.
2   Assessment and grading.
3   Core Skills.
4   Quality assurance.

The aim of these changes is to improve the overall standard of HNCs/HNDs and to enhance their currency amongst end users, including employers and Higher Education (HE) admissions staff.

Summary of changes

Under the new design principles the HNC Group Award qualification will have 12 credits. The HND award will continue with 30 credits. In order to articulate from HNC to HND, 3 Bridging credits must be taken.

All HNCs and HNDs will have a mandatory section which every candidate for the Group Award will take. For HNCs, this will be a minimum of six credits including a Group Award Graded Unit. For HNDs, this will be a minimum of 12 credits, including two Group Award Graded Units.

As a result of the new design principles, all Units to be included in the frameworks have been assigned a level within the SCQF. Those Units which fall within the suite have been rewritten in accordance with the revised Higher National Unit (HNU) specification. New optional Units imported from other Group Award areas have been written in the new format. All Units will be rewritten using the new HNU specification eventually.

Major changes have occurred in assessment and grading for both the HNC and HND awards:

1   All HNCs will include one Group Award Graded Unit (1 credit) and all HNDs two Group Award Graded Units (2 credits). These assessment credits are within, not additional to, the 12 and 30 credits for HNC/HNDs.

These Graded Unit Assessments cover the main subject areas of the HNC/HNDs. They are designed to provide evidence that the principal aims of the qualification (as stated in the rationale for this award) have been achieved, and that candidates can integrate knowledge and skills and apply them to new contexts. Graded Units will have a value of 1 credit and each will be graded at three levels — A, B or C. Centres prepare, carry out and mark these assessments using validated specifications. In addition, SQA will carry out rigorous external moderation of the Graded Units.

2	At the Unit level, grade criteria for individual HNUs, ie merit, is being phased out. Therefore the Units which have been rewritten in accordance with the revised HNU specification, ie those within this suite, do not contain merit statements.

Following on from Scottish Group Awards and other initiatives in HE, all HNC/HNDs will have a Core Skills profile. This will entail both a recommended entry level profile and a recommended exit level profile. The Core Skills covered are the national Core Skills of *Problem Solving, Communication, Numeracy, Information Technology* and *Working with Others*.

## 2.7	The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework

In accordance with the new Design Principles, due cognisance has been taken of the requirements of the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) in the design of these awards. This means that the HNC award is broadly equivalent to the first year of a Scottish degree, while the HND awards will be broadly equivalent to the first and second years of a Scottish degree. This is re-affirmed under the BSc/BSc (Hons) Horticulture, BSc/BSc (Hons) Horticulture with Plantsmanship and BSc/BSc (Hons) Landscape Management degree frameworks where *ab initio* enrolled degree students follow a progression path through the HN award frameworks.

All Units have been allocated a SCQF level, HNC being level 7, HND level 8.

## 2.8	Core Skills

The importance of Core Skills has been recognised (Lantra Skills Survey) and these are developed throughout the awards. Recommended entry and exit levels for the Core Skills profiles, together with the appropriate carrier Units, are given in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1: Core Skills profile

Core Skill	Recommended Entry level HNC/HND	Mandatory Exit level HNC	Mandatory Exit level HND
Communication	Intermediate 1	Intermediate 2	Higher
Information Technology	Intermediate 1	Intermediate 2	Intermediate 2
Numeracy	Intermediate 2	Intermediate 2	Higher
Problem Solving	Intermediate 2	Higher	Higher
Working with Others	Intermediate 2	Higher	Higher

Table 2: Carrier Units for Core Skills

Core Skill	Carrier Unit(s)	Level
Communication	HNC Graded Unit HND Graded Unit	Higher Higher
Information Technology	Using Software Application Packages Information Technology: Application Software 1	Higher
Numeracy	Horticultural Practices HND Graded Unit	Higher Higher
Problem Solving	HNC Graded Unit HND Graded Unit	Higher Higher
Working with Others	Horticultural Practices	Higher

It should be noted that Higher level is the most advanced level of Core Skill defined by SQA. The QDT considered it appropriate to recommend as entry level to the HNC/HNDs, Intermediate 1 Core Skills in Communication and Information Technology Core Skills, and Intermediate 2 for the other Core Skills.

It is recognised that many students, particularly adult returners, may not have a specified Core Skills Profile on entry and hence the entry level is recommended only. It is an indication of what the Development Group considered would denote a level of proficiency which would enable students to benefit from HNC/HND courses.

Information Technology Core Skill is developed through a discrete Unit. *Communication, Numeracy, Problem Solving*, and *Working with Others* Core Skills have been embedded within carrier Units, and this is achieved quite naturally without 'forcing' the Core Skills in an artificial way.

2.9 Individual course rationales

2.9.1 The awards

There are seven awards in the revised Suite. There were two key drivers behinds the revision process:

♦ the need to conform to the new Design Principles of the HN Modernisation Programme by December 2006
♦ the need to make changes to the frameworks and Unit content to ensure that the awards are fit for purpose, reflect current practice, facilitate progression and articulation and, finally, meet the demands of the industry in Scotland

The latter has been informed by the consultation process, the experience of the centres delivering the current awards over the validation period and new practices, policy initiatives and revisions to the National Occupational Standards over the past five years.

2.9.2 Major changes

The following major changes have been introduced:

- a reduction in the credit value of the HNCs to **12** credits.
- the HNDs in Horticultural Science, Landscape Management, Amenity Horticulture and Production Horticulture. The generic HNC and HND in Horticulture have been designed to provide choice and flexibility for Centres to offer programmes tailored to their candidates and local employer demand as well as providing adequate opportunity for progression to degree level if desired.
- the introduction of Graded Units to allow for overall achievement to be recognised at Group Award level. The Graded Units replace the Integrative Assessments.
- increased practical component.
- opportunity to gain credit given for appropriate work experience in horticulture by introducing a discrete Work Experience Unit.
- updating of Units to include new technology and methods
- streamlining of the frameworks to take account of issues which emerged from implementation.
- inclusion of Units to reflect changes in direction for the sector with a recognition of the retail and leisure elements of the market.

3　Aims of the Group Awards

3.1　Broad outline of academic aims and objectives

1　HNC Horticulture, HNC Landscape Management and HNC Garden Design

Key aim:

To provide individuals with basic generic knowledge and understanding, competencies, skills and abilities in horticulture and landscape and to make them employable at the craft level of the industry.

Generic aims:

These can be categorised as follows:

1　Knowledge and Understanding

Candidates will:

- gain a broad knowledge of horticulture and landscape and an appreciation of the employment sectors within the industries. This will include familiarity with the main theoretical concepts and terminology.
- gain an outline knowledge of areas of specialism and a growing appreciation of the evolving nature of knowledge and understanding of horticultural science and practices.
- be introduced to the processes of research.
- gain a clear understanding of the social relevance of horticulture and landscape.

Arrangements Document: HNC Horticulture (G8P5 15) HNC Landscape Management (G8P4 15) HNC Garden Design (G8P3 15) HND Horticulture (G8P9 16) HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship (G8PD 16) HND Garden Design (G8PE 16) HND Landscape Management (G8PC 16)

7

2   Practice (applied knowledge and understanding)

Candidates will**:**

♦   be able to apply basic professional skills and practices of horticulture
♦   be able to operate mainly in standard situations but also in creative or non-routine activities

3   Generic skills

Candidates will:

♦   be able to solve problems, undertake analysis, synthesis and evaluation within the confines of existing basic understanding of horticulture and landscape
♦   be able to operate in these ways to develop solutions, some of which will be innovative, to a variety of unpredictable problems, within the confines of their existing basic understanding of the industries

4   Communication, Numeracy and IT

Candidates will

♦   be able to practise advanced skills generally and in the context of horticulture and landscape management
♦   be able to communicate effectively with peers employing well-structured communications and interpreting complex texts and messages
♦   be able to deploy a wide range of numerical and graphical skills, in combination where required
♦   be able to process a range of information using IT and working independently

5   Autonomy, accountability and working with others

Candidates will

♦   be able to exercise with significant autonomy in certain horticultural activities and will have an appreciation of the areas of performance which are critical to success. In other areas they will have to operate under supervision
♦   be able to take responsibility for the supervision of others or in the management of work and resources under guidance
♦   be able to work independently or with peers within the confines of existing general practices

2   HND Horticulture, HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship, HND Garden Design, HND Landscape Management

Key aim:

To provide individuals with generic and specific knowledge and understanding, competencies, skills and abilities in horticulture and landscape to make them employable at the management level of the industries or to pursue an independent career.

Generic aims:

These can be categorised as follows:

1   Knowledge and Understanding

Candidates will:

♦   gain a sound knowledge base of the appropriate sector that is integrated and up to date. It will include the defining features, boundaries, main sub-areas and concepts, and main terminology used in the sector
♦   gain an outline knowledge of the range of specialisms
♦   be introduced to developments at the forefront of their chosen sector
♦   explore areas of specialisms and the processes of research

2   Practice (applied knowledge and understanding)

Candidates will:

♦   be able to apply the main general practices and techniques of horticulture and landscape, drawing on advanced and specialised knowledge.
♦   be able to exercise some specialised, but not advanced professional skills and practices.
♦   be able to exercise specialised skills in a variety of technical, specialised or professional contexts some of which will be complex and some of which will be new to the learner but relatively standard within the area. They will often operate under guidance.

3   Generic skills

Candidates will:

♦   be able to solve problems, undertake analysis, synthesis and evaluation within the confines of existing basic understandings of the sector
♦   be able to operate in these ways to develop solutions, some of which will be innovative, to a variety of unpredictable problems within the confines of existing basic understandings of the sector

4   Communication, Numeracy and IT

Candidates will:

♦   be able to practice a range of advanced skills both generally and in the technical language of their chosen sector
♦   be able to communicate effectively with peers within the confines of established practice
♦   be able to operate confidently numerically and graphically to the extent required by the sector and in support of established practices

5   Autonomy, accountability and working with others

Candidates will:

- ♦ be able to exercise with significant autonomy in certain activities and to identify key aspects of their own performance for comment and evaluation. In other areas they will have to operate under supervision
- ♦ be able to take significant responsibility for the supervision of others or in the management of work and resources
- ♦ be able to work independently or with peers within the confines of existing general practices
- ♦ work in support of current practice under guidance

3.2 Outline of course specific academic aims and objectives

HNC Horticulture

The primary objective of the HNC is to introduce students to the breadth of the horticultural industry and to develop an understanding of the characteristics, growth and use of plants, supported by the basic practical skills required for the care and maintenance of plants. Core Skills required at the craft and supervisory levels will be developed.

Aims

- ♦ To contribute to the education and training needs of the horticultural industries and satisfy demand for horticulturists
- ♦ To provide the education and training necessary to develop the awareness and competence to undertake successfully the duties required by the appropriate horticultural sectors
- ♦ To raise levels of skills and knowledge to prepare candidates to move into employment or on to further study
- ♦ To provide a student-centred learning environment which will stimulate students to reach their full intellectual potential
- ♦ To provide opportunity for personal career development, including advancement for mature students with employment experience
- ♦ To provide personnel effective in communication, supervisory and management skills required in the horticultural industries
- ♦ To establish an integrated course structure to enable students to progress to more advanced levels of study
- ♦ To provide progression to the generic HND Horticulture or the opportunity to progress to the specialist HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship

HNC Landscape Management

The objective of the HNC is to introduce the student to landscape management through an understanding of the characteristics, growth and use of plants, and the practical skills for the care and management of plants. This is coupled with practical landscaping skills and an appreciation of landscape contract management. An understanding of the design process provides a unifying conceptual framework.

Aims

♦ To contribute to the training needs of the landscape industry and satisfy the demand for landscape managers
♦ To provide the education and training necessary to raise awareness of the competencies required to become a landscape manager
♦ To provide personnel trained in all aspects of landscape management, including plant and environmental sciences
♦ To establish an integrated course structure to enable students to progress to more advanced levels of study

HNC Garden Design

The objective of the HNC is to develop the underpinning knowledge of plants and their uses, and the practical skills required in the care and maintenance of plants. Design at a garden scale and of garden elements is addressed through an appreciation of the unique requirements for this sector.

Aims

♦ To contribute to the training needs of the horticulture and landscape industries and satisfy the demand for Garden Designers
♦ To provide the education and training necessary to raise awareness of the competencies required to become a Garden Designer
♦ To provide students with an awareness and understanding of the design process
♦ To provide the knowledge and skills required to design, build, research, and manage gardens
♦ To provide an access route for candidates to progress to further study at HND or Degree level

HND Horticulture

In addition to the specific aims for the above HNCs, the primary objective of the HND year is to further develop those practical and Core Skills and progress knowledge and understanding of the chosen discipline.
In addition, the HND will:

♦ provide students with the opportunity to develop their skills and knowledge in the production of edible and non-edible crop plants
♦ provide a vocationally based qualification leading to employment at a management/self-employed level in the production industries
♦ provide students with the opportunity to develop their practical skills and knowledge in the care, maintenance and management of plants in the amenity landscape
♦ provide students with the management skills to take up appointments at management / self-employed level in amenity horticulture
♦ provide an access route to degree level study

Arrangements Document: HNC Horticulture (G8P5 15) HNC Landscape Management (G8P4 15) HNC Garden Design (G8P3 15) HND Horticulture (G8P9 16) HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship (G8PD 16) HND Garden Design (G8PE 16) HND Landscape Management (G8PC 16)

11

HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship

This course will allow students to gain more specialised experience and skills by focussing on the area of plantsmanship.
In addition, the specific aims are to:

♦ provide students with the opportunity to develop their knowledge of taxonomy, ecology, distribution, conservation, cultivation and management of plants
♦ enthuse students to independently develop skills in plantsmanship
♦ enable students to apply plantsmanship skills to the cultural, economic, management and scientific context
♦ provide students with the opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding of the use of plants
♦ enable students to develop their knowledge of the scientific principles of plant growth and development
♦ enable students to develop practical skills and underpinning knowledge required for progression at degree level

HND Garden Design

This course will develop detailed knowledge of plants and their uses, and the practical skills required in the care and maintenance of plants. Design at a garden scale and of garden elements is addressed through an appreciation of the unique requirements for this sector. In addition, candidates will be able to further develop the practical horticultural and landscaping skills and knowledge required to enable them to successfully design and implement projects on a garden scale.

Specific aims

♦ To contribute to the training needs of the horticulture and landscape industries and satisfy the demand for Garden Designers
♦ To provide the education and training necessary to develop the awareness and competence to become a Garden Designer
♦ To provide students with an awareness and understanding of the design process
♦ To provide the knowledge and skills required to design, build, research, and manage gardens
♦ To provide access to study at degree level in garden design or landscape related courses

HND Landscape Management

This course will develop specialist knowledge of landscape management through an understanding of the characteristics, growth and use of plants, and the practical skills for the care and management of plants.

Specific aims

♦ To contribute to the training needs of the Landscape Management industries
♦ To provide the education and training necessary to develop the awareness and competence to become a Landscape Manager
♦ provide the opportunity to develop knowledge and understanding of landscape management, coupled with studies on the interactions between plants and the environment and the social and historical framework within which landscape managers operate
♦ To provide access to study at degree level in Landscape Management related courses

4 Access to Group Awards

4.1 Recommended conditions for entry to the qualifications (access)

Applicants should possess an appropriate level of Numeracy and Communication Skills prior to commencing the awards. A certain intellectual capacity and determination to succeed will also be required. Formal qualifications, appropriate work experience, or both may evidence this. No prior knowledge of Horticulture, Landscape Management or Garden Design will be necessary for entry, but relevant prior experience or qualifications would obviously be of benefit.

Examples of suitable formal qualifications are SQA National Qualifications as specified below.

♦ two Higher level courses (Grade C or above) together with three Standard Grade passes (band 3 or above) and evidence of Numeracy and Communications Core Skills at Intermediate 2
♦ an appropriate group of National Units
♦ appropriate vocational qualification might include an SVQ/NVQ at level 3 in a relevant subject, for example, Amenity Horticulture or Intensive Crop Production
♦ other combinations of National Qualifications, vocational Qualifications and qualifications from other awarding bodies may be acceptable

Mature candidates with suitable work experience may be accepted for entry provided that the enrolling centre is satisfied that the candidate is able to cope with the course and is likely to benefit from undertaking the award.

4.2 Progression routes

4.2.1 Progression from HNC Horticulture

Candidates achieving the HNC Horticulture will have opportunities to progress to the following courses:

♦ HND Horticulture
♦ HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship

Arrangements Document: HNC Horticulture (G8P5 15) HNC Landscape Management (G8P4 15) HNC Garden Design (G8P3 15) HND Horticulture (G8P9 16) HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship (G8PD 16) HND Garden Design (G8PE 16) HND Landscape Management (G8PC 16)

13

4.2.2   Progression from HNC Landscape Management

Candidates achieving the HNC Landscape Management will have opportunities to progress to the following courses:

♦   HND Landscape Management
♦   HND Horticulture

4.2.3   Progression from HNC Garden Design

Candidates achieving the HNC Garden Design will have opportunities to progress to the following courses:

♦   HND Garden Design
♦   HND Landscape Management

4.2.4   Progression from HND Horticulture

Candidates achieving the HND Horticulture may be able to progress to the following courses:

♦   Year 3 of the BSc Horticulture delivered by SAC and validated by Glasgow University
♦   Year 3 of the BSc Horticulture with Plantsmanship jointly delivered by SAC and the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh (RBGE) and validated by Glasgow University
♦   Year 2 or 3 of horticulture degrees offered by universities elsewhere in the UK

4.2.5   Progression from HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship

Candidates achieving the HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship will be able to progress to

♦   Year 3 of the BSc Horticulture with Plantsmanship jointly delivered by SAC and the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh (RBGE) and validated by Glasgow University
♦   Year 3 of the BSc Horticulture delivered by SAC and validated by Glasgow University
♦   Year 2 or 3 of horticulture degrees offered at universities elsewhere in the UK

4.2.6   Progression from HND Landscape Management

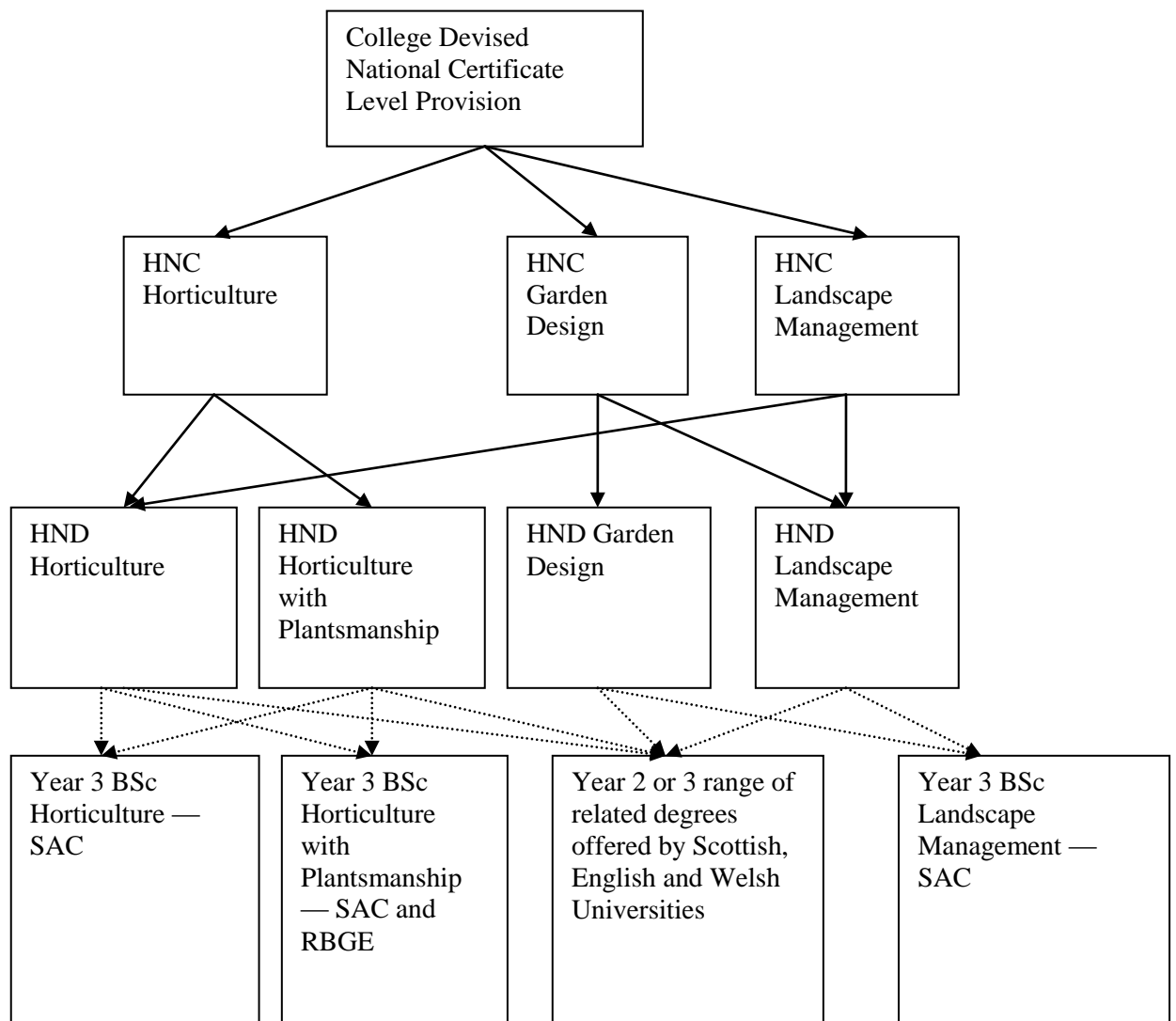Candidates achieving the HND Landscape Management will have opportunities to progress to:

♦   Year 3 of the BSc Landscape Management delivered by SAC and validated by Glasgow University
♦   Year 2 or 3 of a range of degrees in landscape studies offered by universities elsewhere in the UK

4.2.7 Progression from HND Garden Design

Candidates achieving the HND Garden Design will have opportunities to progress to:

♦ Year 3 of the BSc Landscape Management delivered by SAC and validated by Glasgow University
♦ Year 2 or 3 of a range of degrees in landscape design offered by universities elsewhere in the UK
♦ Year 2 or 3 of a range of degrees offered in garden design by universities elsewhere in the UK

4.3 Potential progression routes

```
                    ┌─────────────────────┐
                    │ College Devised     │
                    │ National Certificate│
                    │ Level Provision     │
                    └─────────────────────┘

  ┌──────────────┐      ┌──────────────┐      ┌──────────────┐
  │ HNC          │      │ HNC          │      │ HNC          │
  │ Horticulture │      │ Garden       │      │ Landscape    │
  │              │      │ Design       │      │ Management   │
  └──────────────┘      └──────────────┘      └──────────────┘

┌────────────┐  ┌────────────┐  ┌────────────┐  ┌────────────┐
│ HND        │  │ HND        │  │ HND Garden │  │ HND        │
│ Horticulture│ │ Horticulture│ │ Design     │  │ Landscape  │
│            │  │ with       │  │            │  │ Management │
│            │  │ Plantsmanship│ │           │  │            │
└────────────┘  └────────────┘  └────────────┘  └────────────┘

┌────────────┐  ┌────────────┐  ┌────────────┐  ┌────────────┐
│ Year 3 BSc │  │ Year 3 BSc │  │ Year 2 or 3│  │ Year 3 BSc │
│ Horticulture│ │ Horticulture│ │ range of   │  │ Landscape  │
│ — SAC      │  │ with       │  │ related    │  │ Management │
│            │  │ Plantsmanship│ │ degrees   │  │ — SAC      │
│            │  │ — SAC and  │  │ offered by │  │            │
│            │  │ RBGE       │  │ Scottish,  │  │            │
│            │  │            │  │ English and│  │            │
│            │  │            │  │ Welsh      │  │            │
│            │  │            │  │ Universities│ │            │
└────────────┘  └────────────┘  └────────────┘  └────────────┘
```

5   Group Award structure

Unit title	Code	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
HNC Horticulture: 12 credits required **Mandatory Section: 8 credits required**				
Horticultural Practices	F1JA 34	16	7	2
Plant Growth and Development	F21T 34	8	7	1
Plant Protection	F2B3 34	8	7	1
Horticulture: Plant Recognition and Use	F21S 34	8	7	1
Soil Management	F21V 34	8	7	1
Horticultural Mechanisation Principles **OR**	F21P 34	8	7	1
Selection and Management of Machinery for Land Based Industries	D4PE 34*	8	7	1
Horticulture: Graded Unit 1	F2CF 34	8	7	1
Optional Section A: 1 credit required				
Business Management: An Introduction	F1RJ 34	8	7	1
Getting Started in Business	DK2K 34*	8	7	1
Supervision and Management	F5CP 34*	8	7	1
Optional Section B: from 1 to 3 credits required				
Cell Biology: Theory and Practice	DJ1K 34	8	7	1
Constructing Hard Landscape Features	F1J3 34	8	7	1
Nursery Production	F1JF 34	8	7	1
Pesticide Application	F2B2 34	8	7	1
Plant Physiology	F1MS 34	8	7	1
Plant Trials: An Introduction	F2B4 34	8	7	1
Planting Design	F21W 34	8	7	1
Plants for Gardens: Woody and Herbaceous Perennials	F1J9 34	8	7	1
Retailing of Plants	F1JK 34	8	7	1
Landscape Industry: Specification and Estimation	F1MN 34	8	7	1
Parks, Gardens and Public Open Spaces	F1JG 35	8	8	1
Landscape Design History	F1JB 35	8	8	1
Plants for Gardens: Specialised Plantings	F2B6 35	8	8	1

*Refer to History of Changes for revision changes.

Unit title	Code	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
Optional Section C: up to 1 credit required				
Communication: Presenting Complex Communication for Vocational Purposes	F69L 34*	8	7	1
Work Experience	DV0M 34	8	7	1
Personal Development Planning	DE3R 34	8	7	1
Optional Section D: up to 1 Credit Required				
Information Technology: Applications Software 1	D75X 34	8	7	1
Using Software Application Packages	D85F 34	8	7	1

Unit title	Code	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
HNC Landscape Management: 12 credits required **Mandatory Section: 8 credits required**				
Constructing Hard Landscape Features	F1J3 34	8	7	1
Design Process and Composition in the Landscape: An Introduction	F21M 34	8	7	1
Fundamentals of Landscape Surveying	F1J7 34	8	7	1
Horticultural Practices	F1JA 34	16	7	2
Horticulture: Plant Recognition and Use	F21S 34	8	7	1
Planting Design	F21W 34	8	7	1
Landscape Management: Graded Unit 1 [Exam]	F2CE 34	8	7	1
Optional Section A: 1 credit required				
Business Management: An Introduction	F1RJ 34	8	7	1
Getting Started in Business	DK2K 34*	8	7	1
Supervision and Management	F5CP 34*	8	7	1

*Refer to History of Changes for revision changes.

Arrangements Document: HNC Horticulture (G8P5 15) HNC Landscape Management (G8P4 15) HNC Garden Design (G8P3 15) HND Horticulture (G8P9 16) HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship (G8PD 16) HND Garden Design (G8PE 16) HND Landscape Management (G8PC 16)

17

Unit title	Code	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
Optional Section B: from 1 to 3 credits required				
Horticultural Mechanisation Principles	F21P 34	8	7	1
Landscape Graphics	F1MM 34	8	7	1
Pesticide Application	F2B2 34	8	7	1
Plants for Gardens: Woody and Herbaceous Perennials	F1J9 34	8	7	1
Soil Management	F21V 34	8	7	1
Understanding the Landscape	D536 34	8	7	1
Landscape Industry: Specification and Estimation	F1MN 34	8	7	1
Parks, Gardens and Public Open Spaces	F1JG 35	8	8	1
Plant Protection	F2B3 34	8	7	1
Plants for Gardens: Specialised Plantings	F2B6 35	8	8	1
Optional Section C: up to 1 credit required				
Communication: Presenting Complex Communication for Vocational Purposes	F69L 34*	8	7	1
Work Experience	DV0M 34	8	7	1
Optional Section D: up to 1 credit required				
Information Technology: Applications Software 1	D75X 34	8	7	1
Using Software Application Packages	D85F 34	8	7	1

*Refer to History of Changes for revision changes.

Arrangements Document: HNC Horticulture (G8P5 15) HNC Landscape Management (G8P4 15) HNC Garden Design (G8P3 15) HND Horticulture (G8P9 16) HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship (G8PD 16) HND Garden Design (G8PE 16) HND Landscape Management (G8PC 16)

18

Unit title	Code	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
HNC Garden Design: 12 credits required				
Mandatory Section: 9 credits required				
Design Process and Composition in the Landscape: An Introduction	F21M 34	8	7	1
Fundamentals of Landscape Surveying	F1J7 34	8	7	1
Garden Design Concepts	F1J8 34	16	7	2
Horticultural Practices	F1JA 34	16	7	2
Landscape Graphics	F1MM 34	8	7	1
Horticulture: Plant Recognition and Use	F21S 34	8	7	1
Garden Design: Graded Unit 1	F2CD 34	8	7	1
Optional Section A: 1 credit required				
Design and Use of Hard Landscape Features	F1J5 34	8	7	1
Constructing Hard Landscape Features	F1J3 34	8	7	1
Optional Section B: 1 credit required				
Information Technology: Applications Software 1	D75X 34	8	7	1
Using Software Application Packages	D85F 34	8	7	1
Optional Section C: 1 credit required				
Business Management: An Introduction	F1RJ 34	8	7	1
Getting Started in Business	DK2K 34*	8	7	1
Supervision and Management	F5CP 34*	8	7	1

*Refer to History of Changes for revision changes.

Unit title	Code	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
Additional free-standing Units (not part of conditions of award)**				
Landscape Industry: Specification and Estimation	F1MN 34	8	7	1
Planting Design	F21W 34	8	7	1
Plants for Gardens: Woody and Herbaceous Perennials	F1J9 34	8	7	1
Plant Growth and Development	F21T 34	8	7	1
Plant Trials: An Introduction	F2B4 34	8	7	1
Work Experience	DVOM 34	8	7	1
Soil Management	F21V 34	8	7	1
Plants for Gardens: Specialised Plantings	F2B6 35	8	8	1

**These Units are to provide additionality and bridging to HND. They may also be used for purposes of continuing professional development.

HND Horticulture: 30 credits required Mandatory Section: 11 credits required				
Horticultural Mechanisation Principles	F21P 34	8	7	1
Horticultural Practices	F1JA 34	16	7	2
Plant Growth and Development	F21T 34	8	7	1
Plant Protection	F2B3 34	8	7	1
Horticulture: Plant Recognition and Use	F21S 34	8	7	1
Soil Management	F21V 34	8	7	1
Soils and Plant Nutrition	F1JL 35	8	8	1
Plant Protection: Integrated Approaches	F1JH 35	8	8	1
Horticulture: Graded Unit 2 [Project]	F2CX 35	8	8	1
Horticulture: Graded Unit 3 [Exam]	F2CY 35	8	8	1
Optional Section A: 1 credit required				
Horticulture: Graded Unit 1 [Exam]	F2CF 34	8	7	1
Landscape Management: Graded Unit 1 [Exam]	F2CE 34	8	7	1

Arrangements Document: HNC Horticulture (G8P5 15) HNC Landscape Management (G8P4 15) HNC Garden Design (G8P3 15) HND Horticulture (G8P9 16) HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship (G8PD 16) HND Garden Design (G8PE 16) HND Landscape Management (G8PC 16)

20

Unit title	Code	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
Optional Section B: 1 credit required				
Information Technology: Applications Software 1	D75X 34	8	7	1
Using Software Application Packages	D85F 34	8	7	1
Optional Section C: From 1 to 2 credits required				
Business Management: An Introduction	F1RJ 34	8	7	1
Getting Started in Business	DK2K 34*	8	7	1
Supervision and Management	F5CP 34*	8	7	1
**NB — in order to meet the HN Design Principles, candidates must achieve a minimum of 8 Unit credits (64 credit points) at SCQF level 8. The mandatory section provides 4 Unit credits (32 credit points) at SCQF level 8. Candidates, therefore, require a further 4 Unit credits (32 credit points) at SCQF level 8 from this section.				
Optional Section D: from 4 to 16 credits required**				
Advanced Plant Propagation	F1J2 35	8	8	1
Crop Physiology and Breeding	F2AX 35	8	8	1
Crop Production Practices	F1J4 35	8	8	1
DNA Molecular Techniques — Theory and Practice	DJ6X 35	8	8	1
Genetics for Plant Science	F1MK 35	8	8	1
Hardy Ornamental Nursery Stock — Container Production	F2AY 35	8	8	1
Horticultural Growing Media	F2B0 35	8	8	1
Horticultural Production Mechanisation	F21R 35	8	8	1
Information Technology in Landscape Design and Management	F1ML 35	8	8	1
Landscape Design History	F1JB 35	8	8	1
Landscape Management and Maintenance	F1JC 35	8	8	1
Landscape Practices	F2B1 35	8	8	1
Lawn Construction and Management	F1JD 35	8	8	1

*Refer to History of Changes for revision changes.

Unit title	Code	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
Parks, Gardens and Public Open Spaces	F1JG 35	8	8	1
Plants and Habitats: Ecology and Conservation	F2B5 35	16	8	2
Plants for Gardens: Specialised Plantings	F2B6 35	8	8	1
Protected Crops	F1JJ 35	8	8	1
Terrestrial Ecosystems	DP4X 35	8	8	1
Water Gardens: Design and Construction	F2B7 35	8	8	1
Data Collection and Handling Methods	F3X3 35	8	8	1
Organic Production Systems	F1YA 35	8	8	1
Show Gardens: Design and Construction	F4TH 35	16	8	2
Optional Section E: up to 12 credits required				
Biochemistry: Theory and Practice	DH2J 34	8	7	1
Cell Biology: Theory and Practice	DJ1K 34	8	7	1
Communication: Presenting Complex Communication for Vocational Purposes	F69L 34*	8	7	1
Constructing Hard Landscape Features	F1J3 34	8	7	1
Design Process and Composition in the Landscape: An Introduction	F21M 34	8	7	1
Fundamentals of Landscape Surveying	F1J7 34	8	7	1
Landscape Graphics	F1MM 34	8	7	1
Landscape Industry: Specification and Estimation	F1MN 34	8	7	1
Nursery Production	F1JF 34	8	7	1
Pesticide Application	F2B2 34	8	7	1
Pests, Diseases, Weeds and Disorders of Garden Plants	F1MP 34	8	7	1
Plant Physiology	F1MS 34	8	7	1
Plant Trials: An Introduction	F2B4 34	8	7	1
Planting Design	F21W 34	8	7	1
Plants for Gardens: Woody and Herbaceous Perennials	F1J9 34	8	7	1
Retailing of Plants	F1JK 34	8	7	1
Understanding the Landscape	D5E6 34	8	7	1
Work Experience	DV0M 34	8	7	1
Personal Development Planning	DE3R 34	8	7	1

*Refer to History of Changes for revision changes.

Unit title	Code	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship: 30 credits required				
Mandatory Section: 21 credits required				
Horticultural Practices	F1JA 34	16	7	2
Horticultural Mechanisation Principles	F21P 34	8	7	1
Plant Protection	F2B3 34	8	7	1
Horticulture: Plant Recognition and Use	F21S 34	8	7	1
Plant Growth and Development	F21T 34	8	7	1
Soil Management	F21V 34	8	7	1
Advanced Plant Propagation	F1J2 35	8	8	1
Designing Plant Collections	F1J6 35	8	8	1
Landscape Design History	F1JB 35	8	8	1
Managing Plant Collections	F1JE 35	16	8	2
Plant Classification and Systematics	F1MR 35	16	8	2
Plant Protection: Integrated Approaches	F1JH 35	8	8	1
Plants and Habitats: Ecology and Conservation	F2B5 35	16	8	2
Soils and Plant Nutrition	F1JL 35	8	8	1
Horticulture: Graded Unit 1	F2CF 34	8	7	1
Horticulture with Plantsmanship: Graded Unit 2 [Project]	F2D4 35	8	8	1
Horticulture with Plantsmanship: Graded Unit 3 [Exam]	F2D5 35	8	8	1
Optional section A: 1 credit required				
Information Technology: Applications Software 1	D75X 34	8	7	1
Using Software Application Packages	D85F 34	8	7	1
Optional Section B: from 1 to 2 credits required				
Business Management: An Introduction	F1RJ 34	8	7	1
Getting Started in Business	DK2K 34*	8	7	1
Supervision and Management	F5CP 34*	8	7	1

*Refer to History of Changes for revision changes.

Unit title	Code	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
Optional Section C: from 6 to 7 credits required				
Biochemistry: Theory and Practice	DH2J 34	8	7	1
Cell Biology: Theory and Practice	DJ1K 34	8	7	1
Communication: Presenting Complex Communication for Vocational Purposes	F69L 34*	8	7	1
Constructing Hard Landscape Features	F1J3 34	8	7	1
Landscape Industry: Specification and Estimation	FMN 34	8	7	1
Nursery Production	F1JF 34	8	7	1
Pesticide Application	F2B2 34	8	7	1
Plant Physiology	F1MS 34	8	7	1
Plant Trials: An Introduction	F2B4 34	8	7	1
Planting Design	F21W 34	8	7	1
Plants for Gardens: Woody and Herbaceous Perennials	F1J9 34	8	7	1
Retailing of Plants	F1JK 34	8	7	1
Work Experience	DV0M 34	8	7	1
Genetics for Plant Science	F1MK 35	8	8	1
Parks, Gardens and Public Open Spaces	F1JG 35	8	8	1
Plants for Gardens: Specialised Plantings	F2B6 35	8	8	1
Data Collection and Handling Methods	F3X3 35	8	8	1
Terrestrial Ecosystems	DP4X 35	8	8	1
Personal Development Planning	DE3R 34	8	7	1

*Refer to History of Changes for revision changes.

Unit title	Code	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
HND Garden Design: 30 credits required **Mandatory Section: 18 credits required**				
Design and Use of Hard Landscape Features	F1J5 34	8	7	1
Design Process and Composition in the Landscape: An Introduction	F21M 34	8	7	1
Fundamentals of Landscape Surveying	F1J7 34	8	7	1
Garden Design Concepts	F1J8 34	16	7	2
Horticultural Practices	F1JA 34	16	7	2
Landscape Graphics	F1MM 34	8	7	1
Horticulture: Plant Recognition and Use	F21S 34	8	7	1
Garden Design Practice	F1MJ 35	8	8	1
Garden Design Skills	F21N 35	8	8	1
Information Technology in Landscape Design and Management	F1ML 35	8	8	1
Landscape Design History	F1JB 35	8	8	1
Landscape Management and Maintenance	F1JC 35	8	8	1
Landscape Practices	F2B1 35	8	8	1
Garden Design: Graded Unit 1 [Exam]	F2CD 34	8	7	1
Garden Design: Graded Unit 2 [Project]	F2D6 35	8	8	1
Garden Design: Graded Unit 3 [Exam]	F2D7 35	8	8	1
Optional Section A: 1 credits required				
Information Technology: Applications Software 1	D75X 34	8	7	1
Using Software Application Packages	D85F 34	8	7	1

*Refer to History of Changes for revision changes.

Arrangements Document: HNC Horticulture (G8P5 15) HNC Landscape Management (G8P4 15) HNC Garden Design (G8P3 15) HND Horticulture (G8P9 16) HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship (G8PD 16) HND Garden Design (G8PE 16) HND Landscape Management (G8PC 16)

25

Unit title	Code	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
Optional Section B: from 1 to 2 credits required				
Business Management: An Introduction	F1RJ 34	8	7	1
Getting Started in Business	DK2K 34*	8	7	1
Supervision and Management	F5CP 34*	8	7	1
Optional Section C: from 9 to 10 credits required				
Communication: Presenting Complex Communication for Vocational Purposes	F69L 34*	8	7	1
Constructing Hard Landscape Features	F1J3 34	8	7	1
Landscape Industry: Specification and Estimation	F1MN 34	8	7	1
Pests, Diseases, Weeds and Disorders of Garden Plants	F1MP 34	8	7	1
Plant Growth and Development	F21T 34	8	7	1
Plant Protection	F2B3 34	8	7	1
Plant Trials: An Introduction	F2B4 34	8	7	1
Planting Design	F21W 34	8	7	1
Plants for Gardens: Woody and Herbaceous Perennials	F1J9 34	8	7	1
Soil Management	F21V 34	8	7	1
Work Experience	DV0M 34	8	7	1
Lawn Construction and Management	F1JD 35	8	8	1
Plants for Gardens: Specialised Plantings	F2B6 35	8	8	1
Water Gardens: Design and Construction	F2B7 35	8	8	1
Optional Section D: up to 2 credits required				
Design and Construction of Show Gardens	D7VN 35	16	8	2
Show Gardens: Design and Construction	F4TH 35	16	8	2

*Refer to History of Changes for revision changes.

Arrangements Document: HNC Horticulture (G8P5 15) HNC Landscape Management (G8P4 15) HNC Garden Design (G8P3 15) HND Horticulture (G8P9 16) HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship (G8PD 16) HND Garden Design (G8PE 16) HND Landscape Management (G8PC 16)

26

Unit title	Code	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
HND Landscape Management: 30 credits required				
Mandatory Section: 15 credits required				
Constructing Hard Landscape Features	F1J3 34	8	7	1
Design Process and Composition in the Landscape: An Introduction	F21M 34	8	7	1
Fundamentals of Landscape Surveying	F1J7 34	8	7	1
Horticultural Practices	F1JA 34	16	7	2
Horticulture: Plant Recognition and Use	F21S 34	8	7	1
Planting Design	F21W 34	8	7	1
Information Technology in Landscape Design and Management	F1ML 35	8	8	1
Landscape Design History	F1JB 35	8	8	1
Landscape Management and Maintenance	F1JC 35	8	8	1
Landscape Practices	F2B1 35	8	8	1
Parks, Gardens and Public Open Spaces	F1JG 35	8	8	1
Terrestrial Ecosystems	DP4X 35	8	8	1
Landscape Management: Graded Unit 2 [Exam]	F2D2 35	8	8	1
Landscape Management: Graded Unit 3 [Project]	F2D3 35	8	8	1
Optional Section A: 1 credit required				
Landscape Management: Graded Unit 1 (Exam)	F2CE 34	8	7	1
Garden Design: Graded Unit 1 (Exam)	F2CD 34	8	7	1
Optional Section B: 1 credit required				
Information Technology: Applications Software 1	D75X 34	8	7	1
Using Software Application Packages	D85F 34	8	7	1

Unit title	Code	SCQF credit points	SCQF level	SQA credit value
Optional Section C: from 1 to 2 credits required				
Business Management: An Introduction	F1RJ 34	8	7	1
Getting Started in Business	DK2K 34*	8	7	1
Supervision and Management	F5CP 34*	8	7	1
Optional Section D: from 11 to 12 credits required				
Communication: Presenting Complex Communication for Vocational Purposes	F69L 34*	8	7	1
Design and Use of Hard Landscape Features	F1J5 34	8	7	1
Garden Design Concepts	F1J8 34	16	7	2
Horticultural Mechanisation Principles	F21P 34	8	7	1
Landscape Graphics	F1MM 34	8	7	1
Landscape Industry: Specification and Estimation	F1MN 34	8	7	1
Pesticide Application	F2B2 34	8	7	1
Plant Growth and Development	F21T 34	8	7	1
Plant Protection	F2B3 34	8	7	1
Plants for Gardens: Woody and Herbaceous Perennials	F2J9 34	8	7	1
Soil Management	F21V 34	8	7	1
Understanding the Landscape	D5E6 34	8	7	1
Work Experience	DV0M 34	8	7	1
Land Use Systems	F2GA 35	8	8	1
Lawn Construction and Management	F1JD 35	8	8	1
Plant Protection: Integrated Approaches	F1JH 35	8	8	1
Plants and Habitats: Ecology and Conservation	F2B5 35	16	8	2
Plants for Gardens: Specialised Plantings	F2B6 35	8	8	1
Pollution and Waste Management: An Introduction	F2EE 34	8	7	1
Soils and Plant Nutrition	F1JL 35	8	8	1
Water Gardens: Design and Construction	F2B7 35	8	8	1

*Refer to History of Changes for revision changes.

Arrangements Document: HNC Horticulture (G8P5 15) HNC Landscape Management (G8P4 15) HNC Garden Design (G8P3 15) HND Horticulture (G8P9 16) HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship (G8PD 16) HND Garden Design (G8PE 16) HND Landscape Management (G8PC 16)

28

Graded Units

Under the new design principles all HNCs and HNDs must contain Graded Units. A Graded Unit is marked at level A, B or C and is also externally sampled and verified by SQA to ensure standardisation across centres offering the award.

1   Graded Unit 1 (HNC) at SCQF level 7:   single SQA credit (8 SCQF points)
2   Graded Unit 2 (HND) at SCQF level 8:   single SQA credit (8 SCQF points)
3   Graded Unit 3 (HND) at SCQF level 8:   single SQA credit (8 SCQF points)

5.2   Mapping information

5.2.1   Links to National Occupational Standards (NOS)

The development of the suite of HNCs and HNDs took cognizance of the National Occupational Standards for Horticulture and Amenity Horticulture developed by the Sector Skills Council, Lantra. The revision of the HN Units was informed by the NOS in order to ensure that candidates had the opportunity to develop relevant occupational skills and knowledge related to their chosen discipline. This in turn will help to develop the employability skills of candidates.

5.2.2 Core Skills mapping

Opportunities to develop Core Skills   **Mandatory Units**

Unit title	Core Skills at Higher				
	Communication	Numeracy	Working with Others	Problem Solving	IT
Advanced Plant Propagation		4		4	
Constructing Hard Landscape Features		4	4	4	
Design and Use of Hard Landscape Features		4		4	4
Design Process and Composition in the Landscape: An Introduction	4			4	
Designing Plant Collections				4	
Fundamentals of Landscape Surveying		4		4	
Garden Design Concepts	4			4	
Garden Design Practice	4	4		4	
Garden Design Skills		4		4	
Horticultural Practices		4		4	
Horticulture Mechanisation Principles	4	4		4	
Landscape Design History	4				
Landscape Graphics	4	4		4	
Landscape Management and Maintenance					4
Landscape Practices			4	4	
Managing Plant Collections	4	4		4	
Plants and Habitats: Ecology and Conservation	4			4	
Plant Classification and Systematics	4			4	
Plant Protection: Integrated Approaches				4	
Plant Protection				4	
Horticulture: Plan Recognition and Use				4	
Planting Design		4		4	4
Plants: Growth and Development	4				
Soil and Crop Nutrition				4	
Soil Management	4			4	

5.3 Articulation, professional recognition and credit transfer

Both awards prepare candidates to access a diverse range of progression routes to more advanced study or employment.

Candidates who have completed the HNC may progress to HND

Candidates who have completed the HND and wish to do so, may progress to study on a number of degree courses in Scotland and beyond.

The progression routes noted below are those taken by recent candidates.

Transition and credit transfer arrangements

Implementing credit transfer

The following arrangements show an alternative route to certification which will only be available to candidates who have already completed the predecessor HNC, and should not be offered to any new candidates.

Candidates transferring from an existing 15 credit HNC to the new HND must achieve the full 30 credits for the HND. All other conditions of award for the new HND must be met, ie, achieving the required number of Unit credits at the appropriate SCQF level. For the HND, a minimum of 64 SCQF credit points (8 Unit credits) must be achieved at SCQF level 8.

Centres should:

♦ use the guidance published in the HNC/HND Arrangements Document to give credit transfer for the previously achieved Units within the current rules HNC where appropriate.
♦ agree with the candidates which Units within the new HND award structure require to be undertaken to meet the conditions of the new award. This must include the SCQF level 8 Graded Unit(s) (16 SCQF credit points).
♦ enter, or transfer, the candidate to the new award.
♦ assess the candidate for the remaining Units including the level 8 Graded Unit(s).
♦ process the results as normal listing the Units for the new award which have been achieved or credited.

6   Approaches to delivery and assessment

6.1   Content and context

The HNC/HND is a specialist award framework, permitting candidates to develop and advance skills and knowledge in the core areas of supporting and managing learning or as a blended and interdisciplinary approach

Candidates can augment these studies by selecting from the range of optional Units and candidates undertaking the HNC/HND can study a variety of Units in related areas as well as skills in professional practice in order to develop a wider skills base.

The award is aimed at those who wish to embark on a career in the wide horticulture and landbased fields. It is also aimed at those who wish to develop the necessary skills to progress to further training or employment.

The HNC/HND awards allow candidates to progress to a range of study options, ie Higher Education *(see Section 4).*

Although the Units in this HNC/HND are designed and intended to be delivered as part of the Group Award it is possible for them to be delivered as stand-alone qualifications as part of a candidates' individual CPD needs.

6.2   Delivery and assessment

The curriculum design provides an awareness and understanding of *essential* skills required by those wishing to pursue a career in the horticulture sector. The intention is to develop candidates' ability to identify and apply individual skills in their chosen specialisation within the diverse horticulture sector, thereby enhancing future employability.

Although centres can choose in what order to teach the Units within the awards, it is envisaged that the primary elements of the mandatory Units in the first year are delivered prior to delivering the Graded Unit(s). It is important that these elements of the mandatory Units have been delivered before the Graded Unit is assessed.

The assessment strategy of the SQA Design Principles — to encourage a more holistic approach to assessment — has been adopted in this award. The new HN Unit specification places the emphasis on reducing the assessment load for both candidates and centres by devising assessments that assess the entire Unit or join the assessments of Outcomes together. It is strongly recommended that Centres endeavour to integrate assessments wherever possible and encourage the flexible use of evidence in order to enhance the streamlining of assessment. No condition but makes sense to specify it here.

There is also the opportunity to integrate some assessments across Units. The logistics of this will depend on the programme in individual centres.

Unit specifications detail the exact Evidence Requirements and assessment procedures for each assessment event. Should centres wish to use different modes of assessment from the recommendation they should seek prior moderation from SQA. Exemplar Assessments will be produced for mandatory Units indicating to centres what is required from the assessment instrument.

6.4 Open Learning

Open learning may be feasible for some Outcomes within some Units in this award. The great majority of Outcomes rely, however, on developing practical performance skills in the presence of a lecturer 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 moderation 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.

For information on open learning arrangements, please refer to the SQA guide Assessment and Quality Assurance of Open and Distance Learning (SQA Publication Code A1030).

7 General information for centres

Candidates with disabilities and/or additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. Further advice can be found in the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs* (**www.sqa.org.uk**).

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 and Quality Assurance for Colleges of Further Education* (**www.sqa.org.uk**).

8　General information for candidates

Centres should provide their own information on the Units being delivered for each of the awards and could adapt and expand on the information below.

The Group Awards in HNC Horticulture, HNC Landscape Management and HNC Garden Design will provide the knowledge and understanding and practical skills required to work in these sectors.

Each contains a mandatory section of Units and an optional section including Units from which you must complete 12 SQA credits (96 SCQF points). The assessments for the award are varied and include both practical assessment and report writing.

The Group Awards: HND Horticulture, HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship, HND Garden Design and HND Landscape Management will provide you with the knowledge and skills required to work at a more senior level within these parts of the horticulture sector. In order to be for this award you will normally have completed a relevant HNC or another related HNC. The HND is comprised of 30 Unit credits, 12 of which are obtained from the HNC. As with the HNC, the assessment for each Unit is comprised of written assessment and/or practical work.

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 HN credit is equivalent to 8 SCQF credit points. This applies to all HN Units, irrespective of their level.

SCQF levels: The SCQF covers 12 levels of learning. HN Units will normally be at levels 6–9. Graded Units will be at level 7 and 8.

Unit: Units contain vocational/subject content and are designed to test a specific set of knowledge and skills.

Graded Unit: Graded Units assess candidates' ability to integrate what they have learned while working towards the Units of the Group Award. Their purpose is to add value to the Group Award, making it more than the sum of its parts, and to encourage candidates to retain and adapt their skills and knowledge.

Dedicated Core Skill Unit: This is a Unit that is written to cover one or more particular Core Skills, eg HN Units in Information Technology or Communications.

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 HNC/HND 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 HNCs and HNDs are those developments or revisions undertaken by a group of centres in partnership with SQA.

Specialist single centre and specialist collaborative devised HNCs and HNDs are those developments or revisions led by a single centre or small group of centres who provide knowledge and skills in a specialist area. Like consortium-devised HNCs and HNDs, these developments or revisions will also be supported by SQA.

Arrangements Document: HNC Horticulture (G8P5 15) HNC Landscape Management (G8P4 15) HNC Garden Design (G8P3 15) HND Horticulture (G8P9 16) HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship (G8PD 16) HND Garden Design (G8PE 16) HND Landscape Management (G8PC 16)

35