



Scottish Vocational Qualifications

Qualification Verification Summary Report 2019

Construction: Painting and Decorating

Verification group number: 169

Introduction

This year's quality assurance process was focused specifically around the implementation of the new group award which was the second year of an entirely work-based approach to gathering evidence to satisfy the necessary requirements. This also was the first year with the possibility of candidate completion of the award, but only if they had been registered as two-year adult apprenticeships in 2017–18. However, this variation was only viable for the current first and second year apprentices, with the remaining third and fourth year candidates still completing the old award. Qualification verifiers also completed their two-year run of centre support visits, with all but two completing the full quota.

GF1Y 23 SVQ Painting and Decorating (old award)	These awards went into their lapsing period in August 2017 and will completely finish in August 2021.
GF20 23 SVQ Painting and Decorating (old award)	
GM7W 23 SVQ Painting and Decorating (new award)	Started in August 2017.

Although the main focus of the year's quality assurance was the new group award, there was also a focus on the old awards which were still live for two cohorts of candidates. These two cohorts were still involved in H109 12 Construction Craft Competence Assessment and the gathering of work-based CREWs.

The following units in the new group award were scrutinised during the quality assurance process:

HL7P 04	Confirm Work Activities and Resources for the Work
HL7Y 04	Develop and Maintain Good Working Relationships
HL7N 04	Confirm the Occupational Method of Work
HL7R 04	Conform to General Workplace Health, Safety and Welfare
HL80 04	Erect and Dismantle Access/Working Platforms
HL72 04	Prepare Surfaces for Painting/Decorating
HL6X 04	Apply Paint Systems by Brush and Roller
HN3L 04	Painting and Decorating Skills Test

Category 2: Resources

Criterion 2.1: Assessors and internal verifiers must be competent to assess and internally verify, in line with the requirements of the qualification.

The qualification verification reports from centres for the SVQ and PDA in Painting and Decorating confirmed that all staff at all centres complied with the requirement from the assessment strategy to have relevant qualifications and competence. All staff at all centres were found to be regularly updating continuing professional development (CPD) with both occupational content as well as professional entries.

Good practice was identified at a small number of centres for their wide range of CPD.

There were no recommendations made regarding competence, qualifications or CPD activity.

Criterion 2.4: There must be evidence of initial and ongoing reviews of assessment environments; equipment; and reference, learning and assessment materials.

All centres had ongoing reviews of assessment environment, equipment and learning resources. However, a qualification verifier reported that one centre was found to be using out of date PDA assessment material. This was highlighted with an amber reading and a recommendation to correct this imminently.

At one centre no assessment or internal verification had taken place. This was also reported as an amber indicator, with a re-visit later rescinding this after much assessment and internal verification had progressed.

Category 3: Candidate support

Criterion 3.2: Candidates' development needs and prior achievements (where appropriate) must be matched against the requirements of the award.

Candidates' prior achievements and development needs were reported as being successfully matched against the award at all centres. All centres had a variation of an induction process where candidates were encouraged to disclose prior achievements and learning needs. All centres had a provision in place whereby candidates with extra learning requirements were offered support and alternative assessment arrangements. Progress reviews from managing agents identified and supported any necessary learning requirements in all centres.

There were three instances of good practice recorded by qualification verifiers. One highlighted candidate training sessions for an online portfolio, and two were for the communication methods used by staff to ensure open lines of communication when candidates gathered work-based evidence, while determining the quality of this.

Criterion 3.3: Candidates must have scheduled contact with their assessor to review their progress and to revise their assessment plans accordingly.

Qualification verifier reports for SVQ and PDA in Painting and Decorating qualifications highlighted that candidates at all centres were receiving regular, constructive and meaningful contact with their assessor/s. During the contact, all centres were confirmed to be offering effective, constructive feedback on their progress within the course and making positive comments if areas had been identified for improvement.

In all visiting verifier feedback there was one instance of good practice in this criterion, which was to highlight the effective electronic communication between assessor and candidate when uploading portfolio evidence.

There were no recommendations in the qualification verification reporting.

Category 4: Internal assessment and verification

Criterion 4.2: Internal assessment and verification procedures must be implemented to ensure standardisation of assessment.

The qualification verification reports for SVQ and PDA in Painting and Decorating confirmed that most centres had assessment and verification processes and procedures in place which supported effective delivery of the qualifications. Most verification reporting confirmed that assessors and verifiers within centres had effectively implemented procedures in order to standardise assessment practice. However, two centres fell short in this criterion, one by having no completed assessment or verification, and one where the assessor had very little assessed evidence completed.

Visiting qualification verifiers observed a small number of instances of good practice — one for a state-of-the-art electronic verification system.

Criterion 4.3: Assessment instruments and methods and their selection and use must be valid, reliable, practicable, equitable and fair.

Centres are still effectively using the Training and Assessment Programme (TAPs) to assess units GF20 23 and GF1Y 23 for this term's third and fourth year cohorts of candidates. As the TAPs are SQA-devised material, this ensures they are valid, reliable, practicable, equitable and fair.

The new SVQ group award GM7W 23 requires work-based assessment as the primary source of assessment. All centres are confirmed to be well progressed in the construction and use of either online or paper-based portfolios. Reports show a small number of centres started with paper-based versions and are now progressing on to electronic versions. Both versions have shown in all centres to be making excellent progress.

There was one recommendation for this criterion — one centre had internal verification reports with absent information and signatures.

Throughout the reports there is a common theme that the SQA centre support visits have been efficiently utilised by most centres.

Criterion 4.4: Assessment evidence must be the candidate's own work, generated under SQA's required conditions.

The qualification verification reports for SVQ and PDA in Painting and Decorating confirmed that all centres regularly have candidates' photographed work throughout the TAP. This enables visiting verifiers to match the candidates between tasks and assessments. This is also evident in the induction period for all centres, where they assist candidates in understanding plagiarism and other authenticity issues. Regular signatures from candidates, assessors and internal verifiers enhanced security in almost all centres.

For the GF1Y 23/ GF20 23 awards, Candidate Records of Evidence from the Workplace (CREWs) are still in use. These are signed by site supervisor/tradesperson who has industry experience, in order to ascertain their authenticity and quality.

In SVQ GM7W 23, candidates were collecting photographic evidence in all centres and video evidence in many. These were also authenticated by signatures and photograph head shots in other areas of the portfolio.

There were no recommendations or notes of good practice for this criterion.

Criterion 4.6: Evidence of candidates' work must be accurately and consistently judged by assessors against SQA's requirements.

The qualification verification reports for SVQ and PDA in Painting and Decorating confirmed almost all centres were confident in their ability to accurately and consistently make correct assessment decisions on assessment material from the PDA and SVQ. This was the second and final term of centres and candidates compiling secondary evidence from the workplace in the form of video, photograph, logs and witness testimony as the only way of assessment. Forthcoming terms will be used to utilise on-site assessment.

The assessment of this evidence was viewed to be satisfactory in almost all centres. One centre received an amber value which was later changed to green. The assessor had not completed any assessment or internal verification of the assessment material gathered. On a second visit by the visiting verifier, the work had been completed to a very high standard. In one other centre, very little assessment had taken place when the verifier visited. Due to the nature and lack of evidence gathered, this centre was also placed on an amber reading. This was due to the centre's non-compliance with SQA support visits, which left the assessor tentative in assessing.

One other centre received an amber grading in this criterion due to the frequency of assessment material not being signed off, dated and graded, which lacked integrity.

There were two notes of good practice in this area. One was for the centre's high standard of portfolios in place, and the other was due to the centre's excellent internal verification and sampling systems.

Criterion 4.7: Candidate evidence must be retained in line with SQA requirements.

The qualification verification reports for SVQ and PDA in Painting and Decorating confirmed that all centres were keeping, and storing effectively, the assessment material for all candidates until after the completion of the entirety of the award and for a calendar year period afterwards.

There were no recommendations or notes of good practice in this area.

Criterion 4.9: Feedback from qualification verifiers must be disseminated to staff and used to inform assessment practice.

The qualification verification reports for SVQ and PDA in Painting and Decorating confirmed that all centres were effectively disseminating feedback from visiting verifiers in an effective manner through standardisation meetings, newsletters, bulletins, and non-recorded standardisation between staff and campuses.

Areas of good practice reported by qualification verifiers

The following good practice was reported during session 2018–19:

- ◆ extensive candidate induction process
- ◆ risk-based electronic internal verification system
- ◆ communication methods used between candidates and assessors
- ◆ wide ranges of CPD activities
- ◆ candidate training sessions for electronic portfolio

Specific areas for development

The following areas for development were reported during session 2018–19:

- ◆ assessment process non-compliant with assessment strategy
- ◆ out of date assessment material in use