



Scottish Qualifications Authority Qualification Support Team (QST): Hospitality

Note of Meeting 3 held on Wednesday 2 June 2021 (via Microsoft Teams)

Members: Ayrshire College South Lanarkshire College Dumfries and Galloway College Forth Valley College Edinburgh College Perth College City of Glasgow College North East Scotland College Dundee and Angus College North Lanarkshire College (Chair)		
Officers: Christine Keenan Carol McEvoy		
By Invitation: Eleanor Boyd* (SQA Research & Policy Manager)		
REF	AGENDA Item	NOTES OF DISCUSSION
3/1	Welcome	Members were welcomed to the meeting.
3/2	Note of Previous meeting	The team reviewed the note of the first meeting and agreed that it is an accurate record. It was noted that there was no formal note of meeting 2 as this meeting was specifically arranged to discuss and agree the hospitality subject/critical competence guidance.
3/3	Matters Arising	QST MS Teams page: The team were advised that setting up dedicated MS Teams pages is being taken forward and is being piloted, the intention is to roll out wider in due course. Publication of QST meeting minutes:

		<p>It was confirmed that anonymised versions of the QST meeting minutes will be published on the hospitality subject web pages.</p> <p>Adaptation to work placement/experience units: Guidance for work placement units had been incorporated in the subject guidance published in before Easter.</p>
3/4	Delivery and assessment issues for 21/22	<p>EB (SQA Research and Policy Manager) joined the meeting to gather views from the team on retaining the alternative approach to assessment used this year, ie the decision tree and the subject and critical competence guidance produced. The team discussed approaches taken in their centres, and all agreed that they would like to keep the option of using the decision tree and critical competence guidance in 2021/22. The work involved in producing the critical competence guidance for hospitality was acknowledge. It was noted that an unexpected benefit of using the alternative assessment approach was getting to know students better, eg, when discussing with them any relevant experiences they have that could provide evidence for some units.</p> <p>EB advised that research through centre and candidate surveys, attendance at QSTs, etc had confirmed strong support for enabling centres to keep the option of using the alternative assessment model in 2021/2. EB advised that communication will likely be issued to centres in mid-June – this will align with communications for National Qualifications. The team welcomed having this information now as it will help with planning for next session.</p> <p>EB also advised that feedback had highlighted the possible need for improved guidance around grading (when the graded unit is not used) and that this could be published at the start of the academic year if required.</p> <p>The preferred option for to grading of the HN in Hospitality was discussed and the team agreed that they would prefer to deliver the Graded units, but it was noted that there are mixed views on this across centres and subject areas.</p>
3/5	Transition Issues	<p>The team discussed moving on to the new frameworks in the new session and the impact of any deferrals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most centres will be offering the new HNC in Hospitality Operations • Most centres have been delivering the new level 5 and 6 NCs this year • Early feedback from the new NCs that they are an improvement on the previous version • Centres do not expect to have issues with students having to defer • Some centres had seen an increased demand for hospitality/professional cookery courses <p>It was noted that there is a huge demand for hospitality staff with increased interest from employers looking for completing students.</p> <p>It was pointed out that the Caterer reported that Le Gavroche have suspended their lunch service because of staff shortages.</p>

		<p>It was noted that some employers have reported that staff who have been asked to come back to work after being laid off during the pandemic are reluctant to take on overtime or are only prepared to work a minimum number of shifts, with many choosing to leave the industry to work in other sectors.</p> <p>The team discussed the credit transfer information in the Group Award Specification and agreed that additional guidance would be welcomed for the units where there is only partial transfer between the old and new units. It was suggested that as well as mapping the content of the old and new units and highlighting the differences, and taking into consideration students' relevant work experience, lecturers should use their professional judgement when making decisions.</p>
3/6	HN Next Gen Update	<p>An update was given on the Next Gen project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next gen work is about the next generation of qualifications across the whole SQA portfolio, but initial focus is on the HN qualifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Valerie Innes has been appointed as Head of Service for Next Generation Qualifications and Standards on a 2-year secondment from UHI. In addition to the Next Generation work Val will also oversee work around standards and Apprenticeships linking in with SDS. • In addition, 2 New Product Development Managers have been appointed to support the project • Phase 1 areas are Engineering, Creative Industries (TV) and Computing and Data Science • Phase 2 areas are Accounting, Fitness, Care (Social and Child), Social Sciences and 2nd year of the phase 1 subjects. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Centres will be able to submit applications, eg, for specialist/niche areas, to test out the model for centre led developments • Phase 3 will cover a broader range of subjects. The relationship of related frameworks may be a consideration for QSTs, as areas of commonality may need to be explored. • The QST reflected on some of the main design principles being piloted including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – HNC and HND being discrete qualifications – both of 15 credits. – Incorporation of meta skills (a starting point could be to identify the key skills across the related sectors and what are the means of developing them) • Grading – the pilot is testing different grading models (none of which are based on Graded Units but all to some extent grade qualification wide). • Larger credit units to encourage more streamlined approaches to assessment <p>There is no defined end date by which all HNs will be recast using the revised design principles, it will be a continuous rolling programme from now on although firmer timelines should emerge after initial evaluation</p>

		activity from the Phase 1 pilots. Progress can be followed via the newly dedicated webpage set up at https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/97984.10511.html and it will be a standing item on QST agendas.
3/7	UShare	The team were reminded that the facility to share links to resources/information via UShare is available to anyone. If staff have used any open source materials they have found particularly useful in delivery of the courses, perhaps newly discovered resources suitable for remote delivery they are encouraged to upload links.
3/8	Any Other Business	It was confirmed that centre selections for external verification activity have been completed.
3/9	Date of Next Meeting	14 September 2021