



National Qualifications 2021
Qualification Verification Summary Report
Skills for Work: Uniformed and
Emergency Services

Verification group number: C422

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on verification in National Qualifications in this subject.

Skills for Work Courses

C422 Uniformed and Emergency Services

General comments

Five centres were selected for external verification in session 2020–21. Four centres were verified and one centre withdrew delivery of the course.

All verification was carried out remotely due to COVID-19. This involved telephone, email and other means of communication. All verification was completed to a high standard.

Course arrangements, unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

Assessors at all four centres are clearly working to a high standard. SQA unit assessment support packages were used by centres to assess the course.

All participants in the course, candidates, assessors, internal verifiers and the co-ordinators, have a clear understanding of the course requirements. This is evident from the support given to the assessors in the achievements of external activities, especially in this difficult year.

Evidence requirements

Candidate observation was strong in centres as well as other appropriate assessment methods. Questions, tasks, research and knowledge of diversity and confrontation was positive.

Two centres used workbooks designed to assist candidates in completing the course. Centres put forward evidence from all candidates and assessors.

Administration of assessments

The administration of assessments in all centres is done using modern technology in the form of checklists, spreadsheets incorporating the schools' approved systems for verification and recording procedures. There is ample evidence of standardisation between all the assessors and verifiers at all four centres. All assessment decisions were found to be correct, fair and in line with SQA requirements.

Areas of good practice

All four centres demonstrated good practice. Two centres are involved in strong partnerships, one with The Black Watch and the other with the Army Cadets. Both of these centres are using staff with military experience to deliver and verify the course.

All four centres are using the SQA unit assessment support packages along with a wide range of accepted assessment techniques. Visits were carried out at residential care homes and other locations, such as The Tall Ship. Quiz sessions were used.

Personalisation of research into the roles within the services was noted on two occasions — a very strong input from verifiers with good feedback to all concerned.

There was good recording of standardisation and internal verification activities in all four centres.

A strong effort to maintain the coursework throughout the pandemic is evident from all four centres externally verified. No specific areas for improvement have been identified; centres should aim to maintain the high standards they have achieved this year.