



**Scottish Vocational Qualifications/National Workplace  
Qualifications**

**Qualification Verification Summary Report 2022**

# **Building Services Engineering: Plumbing**

**Verification group number: 177**

# Introduction

This is a report for verification group 177. The report relates to SVQs in Building Services Engineering, which is part of a Modern Apprenticeship.

- F8XJ 04 Working Principles, Installation Options and Regulatory Requirements for Micro-Renewable Technologies, Water Harvesting and Recycling Technologies
- H94X 04 Apply Health and Safety and Environmental Legislation in the Building Services Engineering Sector
- H94Y 04 Establish and Maintain Relationships in the Building Services Engineering Sector
- H950 04 Co-ordinate a Work Site in the Building Services Engineering Sector
- H98E 04 Perform Electrical Work on Mechanical Building Services Systems
- H98F 04 Install and Test Domestic Plumbing and Heating Systems
- H98G 04 Service and Maintain Domestic Plumbing and Heating Systems
- H98H 04 Inspect and Pre-commission Domestic Plumbing and Heating Systems
- H98J 04 Commission Domestic Plumbing and Heating Systems
- H98K 04 Decommission Domestic Plumbing and Heating Systems
- H98L 04 Install Sheet Weathering Protection
- H98M 04 Domestic Plumbing and Heating Final Competence Assessment
- J4FC 04 Apply Health and Safety and Environmental Legislation in the Building Services Engineering Sector
- J4FD 04 Establish and Maintain Relationships in the Building Services Engineering Sector
- J4FJ 04 Coordinate a Work Site in the Building Services Engineering Sector
- J4MX 04 Install and Test Plumbing and Heating Systems
- J4MY 04 Service and Maintain Plumbing and Heating Systems
- J4N0 04 Inspect and Pre-Commission Plumbing and Heating Systems
- J4N1 04 Commission Plumbing and Heating Systems
- J4N2 04 Decommission Plumbing and Heating Systems
- J4N3 04 Install Sheet Weathering Protection

## 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.**

All assessors and internal verifiers at centres are qualified and have occupational experience in accordance with the qualification and Assessment Strategy requirements. All assessors and internal verifiers undertake regular occupational CPD and complete annual CPD records in accordance with the qualification and Assessment Strategy requirements.

All assessors and internal verifiers are upskilling to meet the demands of new technologies and industry, enhancing their teaching and assessment practices.

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

All centres demonstrated evidence of initial and ongoing reviews of assessment environments, assessment procedures, equipment, learning resources and assessment materials through scheduled standardisation activity.

Some centres provided comprehensive ICT learning resources for candidates, enhancing the assessment process.

A small number of centres utilised student surveys and learner forums to enhance assessment environments, equipment, and materials; they created specific assessment environments in conjunction with industry manufacturers to introduce modern technologies into teaching and assessment context for candidates, assessors, and internal verifiers.

A small number of centres created efficient assessment tracking systems to inform candidates of progress and assessment completion on campus, and in remote applications.

## **Category 3: Candidate support**

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

All centres have effective procedures in identifying candidates' development needs and prior achievements, matched against the requirements of the SVQ, SQA performance criteria and the SVQ Assessment Strategy.

All centres have appropriate support and guidance mechanisms in place for candidates' development needs and incorporate records of candidates' achievements, tracking of assessment milestones and standardisation activity focused on candidate support.

Some centres provided extra-curricular support pertaining to the health and wellbeing of candidates, particularly those affected by mental health issues.

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

All centres demonstrated that candidates had scheduled contact with their assessors over the span of the SVQ Plumbing and Heating programme; there is verifiable evidence of candidate progress reviews, where feedback on learning, teaching and assessment was evaluated effectively. All centres were consistent with candidate assessment planning, in line with the requirements of the SVQ. Assessment plans were realistic and time bound.

A small number of centres provided candidate handbooks, paper based or electronic, detailing specific requirements they implement regarding induction, teaching, and assessment processes. A small number of centres provided additional candidate progress

review sessions after daily programme activity through Microsoft Teams; it can take place during candidate attendance at the centre, or remotely through Microsoft Teams.

A small number of centres have created self-reflection evaluative methods for candidates focusing on meta-skill development, enhancing learning and teaching processes.

## **Category 4: Internal assessment and verification**

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

All centres have robust internal assessment and verification procedures in line with SQA policies and the SVQ Assessment Strategy. Centre assessors and internal verifiers can apply internal assessment and verification procedures towards SVQ Plumbing and Heating; it is evident that centres methodically plan assessment and internal verification events in conjunction with the span of the SVQ programme.

Internal verification events are cyclical in most centres; for example, three-year internal verification plans focus on specific technical areas. Planning and subsequent application of internal assessment and verification procedures are agreed through standardisation activity at all centres.

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

All centres use summative assessment instruments provided by SQA and the awarding body partner for the SVQ Plumbing and Heating programme. Training and assessment packages are available through SQA Secure for all holistic assessment activities within the SVQ Award. Selection of summative assessment is standardised across all centres. Summative assessment training and assessment packages provided by SQA are vetted by SQA qualification verifiers and can be deemed valid, equitable, and fair. All centres select effective formative assessment methods in preparation for summative assessment and use a variety of assessment approaches for candidates.

Many centres incorporate virtual learning environments for secure assessment methods, making the assessment process increasingly efficient when assessment tracking and plans work together.

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

All centres have effective processes and procedures pertaining to assessment evidence, maladministration, malpractice, and plagiarism; this is to ensure that assessment evidence is unique to the individual candidate undertaking summative assessments in the SVQ Plumbing and Heating programme.

All centres demonstrated that they apply policies and procedures regarding assessment judgement and decision making which meet SQA and SVQ Assessment Strategy requirements.

Internal verification processes ensure assessment evidence is the candidate's own work and meets performance standards.

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

All centres made accurate and consistent assessment judgements based on the requirements of the SVQ Plumbing and Heating qualification and the Assessment Strategy; centres are aware of their responsibilities to assessment judgement pertaining to the competence of candidates and integrity of the SVQ Plumbing and Heating award. Internal verification processes proved the integrity of assessment, assessment decisions and judgement.

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

All centres retained candidate assessment evidence effectively for the purpose of internal and external verification, ensuring that candidate assessment evidence was retained for definitive periods of time in accordance with SQA criteria.

All centres retained candidate evidence in secure locations only accessible to nominated, competent members of staff. Candidate assessment evidence was retained in paper based and electronic format at all centres.

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

Feedback from SQA qualification verification events is disseminated to centre staff effectively, with focus on quality assurance standardisation activity at all centres. Centres have standardisation meetings post SQA qualification verification event activity, and prepare effectively for continuous improvement as per SQA policies and procedures.

### **Areas of good practice reported by qualification verifiers**

The following good practice was reported during session 2021–22:

- ◆ The use of the SQA CPD toolkit for qualified assessors and internal verifiers to ensure compliance with current standards of assessment and internal verification meeting SQA criteria
- ◆ Student surveys, learner forums, and focus groups implemented to enhance assessment environments, equipment, and materials on the SVQ Plumbing and Heating programme

- ◆ Construction of a realistic working environment in partnership with industry, ensuring candidates are equipped with current and modern technologies, associated specialist training and assessment focused on the SVQ Plumbing and Heating qualification
- ◆ ICT assessment tracking system that automatically captures data of candidate assessment progress at the centre or remotely; the assessment tracking system programmed by the Centre with focus on milestone completion based on cognitive progression
- ◆ Promoting health and wellbeing in cognisance with qualification delivery, with signposted mental health sessions for candidates who required extra support due to their personal circumstances
- ◆ Creation of candidate handbooks that provide information on induction, teaching, and assessment in the SVQ Plumbing and Heating programme, with detailed information on candidate support
- ◆ Candidate self-evaluation methods using meta-skills development to enhance candidate performance in teaching and assessment, and understanding their areas of development
- ◆ Secure online assessment platforms specifically created by centre staff to ensure flexibility of teaching and assessment delivery

## **Specific areas for development**

No specific areas for development were identified during session 2021–22.