

## KEY SKILLS APPLICATION OF NUMBER 2006

### Principal Moderator's Report for May 2006, June 2006 and August 2006

#### Task Setting

In the majority of cases the task set was suitable to enable student to generate the evidence required at the appropriate level.

#### Application of the Assessment Criteria

At all three levels some problems exist with the use of unsuitable source material. At Levels 1 and 2 the specified sources cannot be generated by the candidate. Tables of information collated by the candidate cannot be claimed as a tabular source at Level 1. Similarly a graph or chart generated by the candidate cannot be claimed as a source at Level 2. At Level 3, two different types of source must be used.

Source material must actually be used. In some cases the sources were included but not referred to.

Calculation evidence at Level 1 was satisfactory.

At Level 2 some Portfolios did not contain suitable evidence for N2.2b, c or d. Often results of pie chart angle calculations were claimed for N2.2b. These cannot be accepted without showing the actual calculations. For N2.2c, page 63 of the guidance notes, states that calculations should be carried out to compare sets of data of an appropriate size. This criterion is often poorly addressed. In using formula, N2.2d, candidates should state the formula and show clear substitution into it. Spreadsheet formula cannot be accepted as evidence for N2.2d.

At Level 3 full calculations must be shown rather than claiming results from spreadsheets. The calculations at this level must be multi-stage.

At all levels candidates must show evidence of checking at least once for each category of calculation.

The results for calculations must be accurate for them to be claimed as evidence. Assessors must check accuracy of calculations before marking these as correct.

For interpreting and presenting findings, evidence was satisfactory at Level 1. At Levels 2 and 3 some Portfolios contained inaccurately labelled graphs or charts. Scales must be suitably chosen and values correctly plotted. The presentation method should be suitable for the data. The presentations must also be interpreted.

#### Annotation

In most cases the Portfolios were annotated and evidence page referenced. It should be noted that N1.2b, N2.2b and N3.2b referencing should only be used to indicate calculation evidence (or evidence of a calculation check) for scale or

proportion and should not be used for a scale diagram (without calculation) or graphs.

Source documents must be clearly annotated to distinguish them from candidate's presentation methods.

#### Evidence of Internal Moderation

There is a need for centres to include evidence of Internal Moderation either through details of sampling or an Internal Moderator's report. Centres should also note that the advice of the Internal Moderator should be acted on before Portfolios are sent for External Moderation.