

our vision

The Justice sector will have a workforce with world-class skills that will enable the highest levels of performance in public, private and voluntary organisations across the UK, in all parts of the sector.

our mission

To establish ourselves as a valued organisation that is well respected within the Justice sector and beyond for our contribution to meeting the sector's skills needs.

Community Justice

Standards, NVQs and SVQs

What are National Occupational Standards?

National occupational standards specify the standards of performance staff are expected to achieve in their work, and the knowledge and skills they need to perform effectively. They are agreed by employers, professional associations and trade unions. National Occupational Standards can help individuals and organisations face current challenges by ensuring that they have the necessary skills and knowledge, and by providing a common benchmark for performance. They also allow competent performance to be formally recognised through the award of National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs) and Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs).

All standards are:

- forward-looking benchmarks of good practice across the UK
- endorsed by all main employment interests

They all aim to:

- raise levels of competence in the workforce
- enhance the transferability of skills and knowledge between jobs and organisations
- improve the quality and effectiveness of goods and services delivered

What standards are available?

National Occupational Standards in Community Justice were developed by CJNTO now part of Skills for Justice. They form part of the suite of standards owned and maintained by Skills for Justice and they set standards of good practice for operational staff working in community justice. This includes:

- Working with offending behaviour
- Working with victims, survivors and witnesses
- Community safety and crime reduction

The entire suite of Community Justice and Custodial Care standards have been reviewed and updated during 2005 and 2006 to reflect significant changes in practice and in the organisation of services as well as other factors, including innovation in service provision,

our work

1. Engaging with and influencing employers, government departments, devolved administrations and all key partners
2. Understanding and articulating clearly the current and future skills needs of those working in the Justice sector
3. Developing tools and services to improve the skills of the workforce, working with employers, learning providers and individuals
4. Implementing practical solutions to improve the skills of the workforce, working with employers, learning providers and individuals



Issued: June 2006

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development of National Occupational Standards in other parts of the sector and the revision of some imported units.

The review of the existing standards and qualifications focussed on the following six areas:

1. Working with Victims, Survivors and Witnesses (including witness protection)
2. Restorative Justice
3. Community Safety and Crime Reduction
4. Custodial Care
5. Offender Management and Community Interventions
6. Appropriate Adults

How can the standards be used?

National Occupational Standards can be used for a wide variety of purposes in human resource management and development, including as a basis for NVQs and SVQs.

Managers can use occupational standards and vocational qualifications in:	Individuals benefit from using the standards and qualifications to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• workforce planning• recruitment and selection• job descriptions• induction, training and individual learning programmes• performance management and appraisal• motivation and recognition of staff• mobility and promotion systems• tendering and contracting for services• quality assurance for the organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• clarify what is expected of them in their work• assess their own performance• develop their skills and knowledge• prove their competence and obtain formal recognition for it through achievement of nationally-recognised qualifications• progress within or beyond the organisation

What about qualifications?

The National Occupational Standards in Community Justice have been grouped to form:

- Level 3 Community Justice S/NVQ (Community Safety; Work with Offending Behaviour; Work with Victims, Survivors and Witnesses)

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- Level 4 Community Justice S/NVQ (Community Safety; Work with Offending Behaviour; Work with Victims, Survivors and Witnesses)
- Continuing Development Awards (Community Safety; Work with Offending Behaviour; Work with Victims, Survivors and Witnesses; Restorative Justice)
- Level 3 SQA Progression Award (Scottish Progression Award Work with Victims, Survivors and Witnesses, Scottish Progression Award in Community Service Practice)
- Progression Award "Technical Certificate" (A learning programme providing underpinning knowledge for all Level 3 NVQs) Note - *The term Progression Award applies to a different range of awards in Scotland from those termed the same in England and Wales*
- Advanced Modern Apprenticeship in Community Justice - for candidates under 26 years; to be supported by the Community Justice Technical Certificate (Progression Award)
- Diploma in Probation Studies – In England and Wales this is the required qualification for Probation Officers. An integrated award combining Level 4 NVQ (WWOB) with a Degree in Community Justice

Some of the national occupational standards in Community Justice also appear in Policing NVQs and Youth Justice NVQs and SVQs

Awarding bodies approved to offer the NVQs/SVQs in Community Justice are City & Guilds, SQA and Edexcel. Candidates will be able to register for the above SVQs and NVQs until the end of December 2006, with the exception of the NVQ Level 4 Community Justice (Work with Offending Behaviour) for which the registration period has been extended until March 2007. Candidates will have the usual time periods for completion. It is anticipated that the revised NVQs and SVQs will be available from January 2007.

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Useful contacts

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