

Moderators' Report/ Principal Moderator Feedback

January 2012

GCE Health & Social Care (6948)
Unit 11 – Social Issues & Welfare Needs

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General comments

There was a very small number of centres seen this series in which an inappropriate choice of issue was chosen in many cases. It is advisable for learners to check that there are appropriate government responses associated with the issue before they start writing up this report. One technique that has proved useful to some centres is to ask learners to research Assessment Objective 4 before they embark on the report, to ensure they can access all the necessary information.

Assessment Objective 1

Some learners are still including research of the origins of the issue that go too far back in history, there is no need to predate the inception of the welfare state.

Assessment Objective 2

Many learners had successfully identified the demographic factors and linked them to the issue under discussion. However some learners had shown a misunderstanding of what demographic factors are, and this problem was often seen to be common to an entire centre. Where teachers and assessors are unsure of a topic, the 'Ask the Expert' service on the Edexcel website is a useful way of clarifying subject specific queries.

Assessment Objective 3

This is the section that is usually done best, but the evidence for it is often included in the work for Assessment Objective 1, and assessors do not always recognise that it is there and therefore do not credit it.

Assessment Objective 4

This requires an evaluation of government responses to the issue being looked at. Too often a description is seen and credited at a high mark but there is little attempt at evaluation. Centres need to be careful to ensure that they encourage learners to evaluate the responses, and not just provide descriptions.

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