



# Qualification Specification:

## **OCN NI Level 2 Award in Agricultural Business Operations**

- **Qualification No: 601/4626/6**

## **OCN NI Level 2 Certificate in Agricultural Business Operations**

- **Qualification No: 601/4627/8**

**Version: 2.0**



## 1. Specification Updates

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Key changes have been listed below:

| Section       | Detail of change                            | Version and date of Issue |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Qualification | Extended to 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2032 | V2.0 – June 2026          |
| Specification | On new Format                               | V2.0 – June 2026          |
|               |                                             |                           |

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### 3. Introduction to Open College Network Northern Ireland (OCN NI)

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The Open College Network Northern Ireland (OCN NI) is a UK recognised awarding organisation based in Northern Ireland. We are regulated by CCEA Regulation to develop and award regulated professional and technical (vocational) qualifications from Entry Level up to and including Level 5 across all sector areas. In addition, OCN NI is also regulated by Ofqual to award qualifications in England.

OCN NI is also an educational charity that advances education by developing nationally recognised qualifications and recognising the achievements of learners. We work with centres such as Further Education Colleges, Private Training Organisations, Voluntary & Community Organisations, Schools, SME's and Public Sector bodies to provide learners with opportunities to progress into further learning and/or employment. OCN NI's Strategic Plan can be found on the OCN NI website [www.ocnni.org.uk](http://www.ocnni.org.uk).

For further information on OCN NI qualifications or to contact us, you can visit our website at [www.ocnni.org.uk](http://www.ocnni.org.uk). The website should provide you with details about our qualifications, courses, contact information, and any other relevant information you may need.

#### OCN NI Contact Details

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Phone: 028 90 463990  
Website: [www.ocnni.org.uk](http://www.ocnni.org.uk)  
Email: [info@ocnni.org.uk](mailto:info@ocnni.org.uk)

## 4. About this Specification

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This specification details OCN NI's specific requirements for the delivery and assessment of the **OCN NI Level 2 Award and Certificate in Agricultural Business Operations**.

This specification will provide guidelines for centres to ensure the effective and correct delivery of these qualifications. OCN NI qualification specifications are based on research and engagement with the practitioner community to ensure they provide appropriate skills and knowledge for learners.

The qualification specification will detail the following aspects of the OCN NI Level 2 Award and Certificate in Agricultural Business Operations.

- **Qualification Features:** this includes the key characteristics and features of these qualifications, such as their intended audience, purpose, and credit value.
- **Centre Requirements:** this details the prerequisites and obligations that centres must fulfil to be eligible to deliver and assess these qualifications. These include guidelines on staff qualifications, resources, and required procedures.
- **Structure and Content:** this details the structure and content of the qualifications including units, and any specific content that learners will be required to study.
- **Assessment Requirements:** this details assessment criteria and assessment methods for these qualifications, ensuring that summative assessment approaches are clear.
- **Quality Assurance:** the quality and consistency of delivery and assessment of these qualifications are of paramount importance to OCN NI. The mandatory quality assurance arrangements including processes for internal and external quality assurance that all centres offering these qualifications must adhere to are detailed.
- **Administration:** guidance on the administrative aspects of delivering these qualifications, including registration, certification, and record-keeping.
- Reference to other handbooks and policies as appropriate to the qualifications.

It is important to note that OCN NI will communicate any significant updates or changes to this specification in writing to our centres. Additionally, we will make these changes available on our official website at [www.ocnni.org.uk](http://www.ocnni.org.uk).

To stay current, please refer to the online version of this specification as it is the most authoritative and up-to-date publication. Be aware that downloaded and printed copies may not reflect the latest revisions.

#### 4.1 Additional Support

OCN NI offers a comprehensive range of support services designed to assist centres in meeting the delivery and quality assurance requirements of OCN NI qualifications. These services include:

- **Specimen Assessment Materials:** These booklets are created to assist learners in demonstrating the fulfilment of assessment criteria and organising the quality assurance prerequisites for each individual unit.
- **Qualification Support Pack:** A support pack has been developed to support centres in the delivery of these qualifications. The pack includes planning and assessment templates, guides to best practice, etc.
- **Professional Development for Educators:** OCN NI provides opportunities for professional development tailored to meet the various needs of practitioners and quality assurance staff. Centres can join our training sessions, available in both face-to-face and online formats, or explore a wealth of training materials by visiting [www.ocnni.org.uk](http://www.ocnni.org.uk)
- **OCN NI Subject Advisors:** Our team of subject advisors offers vital information and support to centres. They provide guidance on specification details, non-exam assessment advice, updates on resource developments, and various training opportunities. They actively engage with subject communities through an array of networks to facilitate the exchange of ideas and expertise, to support practitioners to provide quality education programs to learners.

All centres can access information, support and guidance to support the delivery and quality assurance of these qualifications by contacting their designated Business Development Advisor or by contacting us on [Contact Us | OCN NI](#)

## 5. About these Qualifications

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### 5.1 Qualification Regulation Information

OCN NI Level 2 Award in Agricultural Business Operations

Qualification Number: 601/4626/6

OCN NI Level 2 Certificate in Agricultural Business Operations

Qualification Number: 601/4627/8

Operational start date: 01 October 2014

Review date: 30 September 2032

The qualifications' operational start and end dates define the regulated qualifications' lifecycle. The operational end date is the final date for learner registration, while learners have until the certificate end date to complete the qualifications and receive their certificates.

It is important to note that all OCN NI regulated qualifications are listed on the Register of Regulated Qualifications (RQF), which can be found at [Ofqual Register](#). This register is maintained by Ofqual in England and CCEA Regulation in Northern Ireland. It contains information about qualifications that are regulated and accredited. It is a key resource for learners, employers, and educational institutions to verify the status and recognition of qualifications.

Centres must adhere to administrative guidelines diligently, with special attention to the fact that fees, registration, and certification end dates for the qualification may be subject to changes. It is a centre's responsibility to make itself aware of updates on any modifications to ensure compliance with the latest requirements. OCN NI provides centres with timely updates through various channels including website, newsletters and through this specification. Information on qualification fees can be found on the Centre Login section of the OCN NI website [www.ocnni.org.uk](http://www.ocnni.org.uk).

### 5.2 Sector Subject Area

A subject sector area is a specific category used to classify academic and vocational qualifications. Subject sector areas are part of the educational and qualifications framework to organise and categorise qualifications. The sector subject for these qualifications is:

**Subject Area: 3.1 Agriculture**

### 5.3 Grading

Grading for these qualifications is pass/fail.

### 5.4 Qualifications' Aim and Objectives

The OCN NI Level 2 Agricultural Business Operations qualifications have been designed for learners interested in developing skills and knowledge in the areas of plant/animal production and health, farm health and safety, farm business management and Information Technology. The qualifications will promote training within the agricultural industry and provide the essential skills and knowledge for young farmers to perform successfully in working life and keep up-to-date with the technical knowledge needed to sustain and develop their farm businesses in the future.

### 5.5 Target Learners

The qualifications are targeted at learners who are currently employed in the areas of livestock and/or crop production and wish to gain a nationally recognised qualification at level 2.

### 5.6 Entry Requirements

Learners should be at least 16 years of age and should possess a reasonable standard of literacy, numeracy and ICT skills. It is essential that applicants have basic practical farm skills in relation to the farm enterprise studied.

### 5.7 Progression

From the OCN NI Level 2 Award in Agricultural Business Operations learners can progress to the OCN NI Level 2 Certificate in Agricultural Business Operations. From the OCN NI Level 2 suite of Agricultural Business Operations qualifications learners may also progress to the OCN NI Level 3 qualifications in Agricultural Business Development.

### 5.8 Ensuring Health and Safety of Learners

Within the suite of qualifications in agricultural business operations, the health, safety and security of learners are paramount. Every effort must be made by the centre and those involved in the delivery to ensure that learners operate in a safe and secure environment where risk of injury is minimum. Particular attention should be given to:

- ensuring learners are briefed about health, safety and security procedures including how to identify hazards and report accidents/injuries/dangerous occurrences
- ensuring learners understand the key legislative and best practice aspects of the agricultural industry
- ensuring necessary risk assessments are carried out
- ensuring appropriate levels of supervision are agreed and implemented prior to delivery

- ensuring learners are aware of the hazards of working with animals, farm equipment and slurry
- adhering to child protection regulations
- clear accident reporting procedures being in place
- machinery, tools and/or equipment to ensure they are in safe working order and learners are given proper instruction, training, protective clothing and supervision
- appropriate insurance arrangements being in place

## **5.9 Delivery Language**

These qualifications are exclusively available in English. If there is a desire to offer these qualifications in Welsh or Irish (Gaeilge), we encourage you to get in touch with OCN NI. They will assess the demand for such provisions and, if feasible, provide the qualification in the requested language as appropriate.

## 6. Centre Requirements for Delivering these Qualifications

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### 6.1 Centre Recognition

New and existing OCN NI recognised centres must apply for and be granted approval to deliver these qualifications prior to the commencement of delivery.

### 6.2 Qualification Approval

Once a centre has successfully undergone the Centre Recognition process, it becomes eligible to apply for qualification approval. The centre's capability to meet and sustain the qualification criteria will be assessed. Throughout the qualification approval process, OCN NI will aim to ensure that:

- centres possess suitable physical resources (e.g., equipment, IT, learning materials, teaching rooms) to support qualification delivery and assessment
- centre staff involved in the assessment process have relevant expertise and/or occupational experience
- robust systems are in place for ensuring ongoing professional development for staff delivering the qualifications
- centres have appropriate health and safety policies concerning learner equipment use
- qualification delivery by centres complies with current equality and diversity legislation and regulations
- as a part of the assessment process for these qualifications it may be useful for learners to have access to a practical work setting

### 6.3 Centre Staffing

To offer these qualifications centres are mandated to establish the following roles as a minimum, although a single staff member may serve in more than one capacity\*:

- Centre contact
- Programme Co-ordinator
- Assessor
- Internal Quality Assurance (IQA)

\*Note: An individual cannot serve as an IQA for their own assessments.

## 6.4 Tutor Requirements

Tutors responsible for delivering these qualifications are expected to possess a high degree of occupational competency. They should meet the following criteria:

- **Occupational Competency:** Tutors should demonstrate a clear understanding of the subject matter, including up-to-date knowledge. They should also have a minimum of one year's relevant experience in this area. This competence should enable them to effectively impart knowledge and practical skills to learners.
- **Qualifications:** Tutors should hold qualifications at a level that is at least one level higher than the qualification they are teaching. This ensures that they have the necessary academic foundation to provide in-depth guidance and support to learners.

These requirements collectively ensure that learners receive instruction from highly qualified and experienced instructors, thereby enhancing the quality and effectiveness of their educational experience.

## 6.5 Assessor Requirements

The assessment of these qualifications takes place within the centre and is subjected to OCN NI's rigorous quality assurance procedures. The achievement of individual units is based on the criteria defined in each unit.

Assessors play a pivotal role in ensuring the validity and fairness of assessments. They are required to meet the following criteria:

- **Occupational Competency:** Assessors should have a minimum of an Honours degree or equivalent qualification in Agriculture, or Agricultural Technology, or Agricultural Economics and Management, or in a closely related subject. This expertise enables them to accurately evaluate and measure a learner's knowledge and skills.
- **Assessment Expertise:** Assessors should have a minimum of 12 months relevant post qualification experience in agriculture. They should have a minimum of 12 months direct or related experience in assessment in the relevant area. This includes knowledge of best practices in designing, conducting, and grading assessments. Their expertise ensures that assessments are both fair and valid.
- **Assessors Qualification:** Assessors should hold or be currently undertaking a recognised assessor's qualification; or must have attended the OCN NI Assessment Training.
- **Comprehensive Assessment Oversight:** Assessors are responsible for evaluating all assessment tasks and activities comprehensively. They must thoroughly review and assess each element to ensure a fair and accurate representation of a learner's skills and knowledge.

These rigorous requirements uphold the quality and integrity of the qualification's assessment process, ensuring that learners receive a fair and reliable evaluation of their competencies.

## 6.6 Internal Quality Assurer Requirements

The Internal Quality Assurer plays a crucial role in the centre's internal quality assurance processes. The centre must designate a skilled and trained IQA who assumes the role of an internal quality monitor responsible for verifying the delivery and assessment of the qualifications.

The Internal Quality Assurer for these qualifications must meet the following criteria:

- **IQA Expertise:** IQA should have direct or related experience in the field of verification and have at least one year's occupational experience in the areas they are internally quality assuring. This includes knowledge of best practices in designing, conducting, and grading assessments. Their expertise ensures that assessments are both fair and valid.
- **IQA Qualification:** IQA should hold or be currently undertaking a recognised IQA qualification; or must have attended the OCN NI IQA Training.
- **Thorough Evaluation of Assessment Tasks and Activities:** IQA are tasked with conducting in-depth reviews and assessments of all assessment tasks and activities. Their responsibility is to ensure a comprehensive and meticulous oversight of each element to guarantee a just and precise reflection of a learner's abilities and knowledge and to ensure that all assessment and quality assurance requirements are fulfilled.

## 7. Qualification Structure

### 7.1 Qualification Purpose

The OCN NI Level 2 Award and Certificate in Agricultural Business Operations will provide learners with a structured, unitised qualification that develops and recognises the essential knowledge, understanding and practical competence required to support effective agricultural business operations. Through a pass/fail assessment model, the qualifications enable learners to demonstrate proficiency across key areas such as farm business management, plant and/or animal production and health, farm health and safety, and the use of information technology within a farming context. They are designed to support learners working in, or preparing to work in, agricultural settings by confirming their ability to apply relevant skills and knowledge with confidence, accuracy and due regard to safe and effective practice, while also providing a clear pathway for progression to further learning or development within the agricultural sector.

### 7.2 Qualification Level

In the context of the OCN NI Level 2 Award and Certificate in Agricultural Business Operations it is essential to understand the significance of qualification levels, as they play a pivotal role in assessing the depth and complexity of knowledge and skills required for successful attainment. These qualifications align with Level 2, which signify a moderate level of difficulty and intricacy. It's important to note that qualification levels in the educational framework range from Level 1 to Level 8, complemented by three 'entry' levels, namely Entry 1 to Entry 3.

### 7.3 Qualification Size

#### Total Qualification Time (TQT)

This represents the total amount of time a learner is expected to spend to complete the qualification successfully. It includes both guided learning hours (GLH) and independent study or additional learning time.

#### Guided Learning Hours (GLH)

These are the hours of guided instruction and teaching provided to learners. This may include classroom instruction, tutorials, or other forms of structured learning.

| OCN NI Level 2 Award in Agricultural Business Operations       |            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Total Qualification Time (TQT):                                | 120 hours  |
|                                                                |            |
| Total Credits Required:                                        | 12 credits |
| Guided Learning Hours (GLH):                                   | 96 hours   |
| OCN NI Level 2 Certificate in Agricultural Business Operations |            |
| Total Qualification Time (TQT):                                | 210 hours  |
|                                                                |            |
| Total Credits Required:                                        | 21 credits |
| Guided Learning Hours (GLH):                                   | 168 hours  |

## 7.4 How to Achieve the Qualifications

To achieve the **OCN NI Level 2 Award in Agricultural Business Operations** learners must complete a total of 12 credits.

To achieve the **OCN NI Level 2 Certificate in Agricultural Business Operations** learners must complete a total of 21 credits.

## 8. Assessment Structure

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These qualifications are assessed through internal assessment and each unit is accompanied by specific assessment criteria that define the requirements for achievement.

### 8.1 Assessment Guidance: Portfolio

The portfolio for these qualifications is designed to provide a comprehensive view of a learner's skills and knowledge. It is a holistic collection of evidence that may include a single piece of evidence that satisfies multiple assessment criteria. There is no requirement for learners to maintain separate evidence for each assessment criterion.

When learners are creating their portfolio, they should refer to the assessment criteria to understand the evidence required.

It is essential that the evidence in the portfolio reflects the application of skills in real-world situations. Learners should ensure that they provide multiple examples or references whenever the assessment criteria require it.

### 8.2 Understanding the Units

The units outlined in this specification establish clear assessment expectations. They serve as a valuable guide for conducting assessments and ensuring quality assurance efficiently. Each unit within this specification follows a consistent structure. This section explains the operational framework of these units. It is imperative that all educators, assessors, Internal Quality Assurers, and other personnel overseeing the qualification review and familiarise themselves with this section to ensure a comprehensive understanding of how these units function.

- **Title:** The title will reflect the content of the unit and should be clear and concise.
- **Level:** A unit can have one of six RQF levels: Entry, One, Two, Three, Four or Five. All units within these qualifications are Level 2.
- **Credit Value:** This describes the number of credits ascribed to a unit. It identifies the number of credits a learner is awarded upon successful achievement of the unit. One credit is awarded for the learning outcomes which a learner, on average, might reasonably be expected to achieve in a notional 10 hours of learning.
- **Learning Outcome:** A coherent set of measurable achievements.
- **Assessment Criteria:** These enable a judgement to be made about whether or not, and how well, the students have achieved the learning outcomes.
- **Assessment Guidance and Methods:** These detail the different assessment methods within the unit that may be used.
- **Unit Content:** This provides indicative content to assist in teaching and learning.

## 9. Qualification Summary by Unit

### OCN NI Level 2 Award in Agricultural Business Operations

Total Qualification Time (TQT) for this qualification: 120 hours

Guided Learning Hours (GLH) for this qualification: 96 hours

In order to achieve the OCN NI Level 2 Award in Agricultural Business Operations the learner must successfully complete a total of 12 credits from **one** of the following pathways:

| Unit Reference Number                            | OCN NI Unit Code | Unit Title               | GLH | Credit Value | Level |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-----|--------------|-------|
| <b>Business Pathway</b>                          |                  |                          |     |              |       |
| <a href="#">A/506/7263</a>                       | CBA947           | Farm Health and Safety   | 24  | 3            | Two   |
| <a href="#">T/506/7262</a>                       | CBA946           | Farm Business Management | 48  | 6            | Two   |
| <a href="#">F/506/7264</a>                       | CBA948           | IT on the Farm           | 24  | 3            | Two   |
| <b>Enterprise Pathway – Crop Production</b>      |                  |                          |     |              |       |
| <a href="#">A/506/7263</a>                       | CBA947           | Farm Health and Safety   | 24  | 3            | Two   |
| <a href="#">T/506/7259</a>                       | CBA943           | Crop Production          | 40  | 5            | Two   |
| <a href="#">M/506/7261</a>                       | CBA944           | Plant Health             | 32  | 4            | Two   |
| <b>Enterprise Pathway – Livestock Production</b> |                  |                          |     |              |       |
| <a href="#">A/506/7263</a>                       | CBA947           | Farm Health and Safety   | 24  | 3            | Two   |
| <a href="#">J/506/7265</a>                       | CBA949           | Livestock Production     | 40  | 5            | Two   |
| <a href="#">K/506/7260</a>                       | CBA945           | Animal Health            | 32  | 4            | Two   |

### OCN NI Level 2 Certificate in Agricultural Business Operations

Total Qualification Time (TQT) for this qualification:

210 hours

Guided Learning Hours (GLH) for this qualification:

168 hours

In order to achieve the OCN NI Level 2 Certificate in Agricultural Business Operations, the learner must successfully complete a total of 21 credits from **one** of the following pathways:

| Unit Reference Number                      | OCN NI Unit Code | Unit Title               | GLH | Credit Value | Level |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-----|--------------|-------|
| <b><i>Crop Production Pathway</i></b>      |                  |                          |     |              |       |
| <a href="#">A/506/7263</a>                 | CBA947           | Farm Health and Safety   | 24  | 3            | Two   |
| <a href="#">T/506/7262</a>                 | CBA946           | Farm Business Management | 48  | 6            | Two   |
| <a href="#">F/506/7264</a>                 | CBA948           | IT on the Farm           | 24  | 3            | Two   |
| <a href="#">T/506/7259</a>                 | CBA943           | Crop Production          | 40  | 5            | Two   |
| <a href="#">M/506/7261</a>                 | CBA944           | Plant Health             | 32  | 4            | Two   |
| <b><i>Livestock Production Pathway</i></b> |                  |                          |     |              |       |
| <a href="#">A/506/7263</a>                 | CBA947           | Farm Health and Safety   | 24  | 3            | Two   |
| <a href="#">T/506/7262</a>                 | CBA946           | Farm Business Management | 48  | 6            | Two   |
| <a href="#">F/506/7264</a>                 | CBA948           | IT on the Farm           | 24  | 3            | Two   |
| <a href="#">J/506/7265</a>                 | CBA949           | Livestock Production     | 40  | 5            | Two   |
| <a href="#">K/506/7260</a>                 | CBA945           | Animal Health            | 32  | 4            | Two   |

## 10. Unit Content

### 10.1 Farm Health and Safety

| Title                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Farm Health and Safety                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Level                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Two                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                |
| Credit Value                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 3                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                |
| Guided Learning Hours (GLH)                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 24                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                |
| OCN NI Unit Code                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | CBA947                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                |
| Unit Reference No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | A/506/7263                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                |
| <i>Unit purpose and aim(s):</i> This unit will enable learners to understand the health and safety risks associated with managing a farm business including the legislative requirements and methods of reducing the likelihood of farm accidents. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                |
| Learning Outcomes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Assessment Criteria                                                                                            |
| 1. Understand health & safety legislation relevant to farming.                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1.1. Summarise health and safety legislation in an agricultural context including the roles of employer and employee.<br>1.2. Determine when and how to report accidents, injuries and/or dangerous occurrences in the workplace. |                                                                                                                |
| 2. Recognise the health and safety risks associated with farm business.                                                                                                                                                                            | 2.1. Identify risks associated with farm business relating to:<br>a) people<br>b) equipment, materials and waste<br>c) work environment                                                                                           |                                                                                                                |
| 3. Be able to conduct a risk assessment.                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 3.1. Complete a risk assessment for a farm activity.<br>3.2. Define methods of controlling risks including:<br>a) communication<br>b) appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)<br>c) signage                               |                                                                                                                |
| Assessment Guidance                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                |
| The following assessment method/s may be used to ensure all learning outcomes and assessment criteria are fully covered.                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                |
| Assessment Method                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Definition                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Possible Content                                                                                               |
| Portfolio of evidence                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | A collection of documents containing work undertaken to be assessed as evidence to meet required skills outcomes<br>OR<br>A collection of documents containing work that shows the learner’s progression through the course       | Learner notes/written work<br>Learner log/diary<br>Peer notes<br>Record of observation<br>Record of discussion |

## 10.2 Farm Business Management

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Title                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Farm Business Management                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                |
| Level                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Two                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                |
| Credit Value                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 6                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                |
| Guided Learning Hours (GLH)                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 48                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                |
| OCN NI Unit Code                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | CBA946                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                |
| Unit Reference No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | T/506/7262                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                |
| <b>Unit purpose and aim(s):</b> This unit will enable learners to develop the knowledge and skills required to use business management tools to identify costs, compare with other farm businesses and make improvements in financial performance. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                |
| <b>Learning Outcomes</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>Assessment Criteria</b>                                                                                     |
| 1. Understand the importance of measuring farm business performance.                                                                                                                                                                               | 1.1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Clarify why it is important to measure farm business performance.                                              |
| 2. Know how to categorise receipts and expenditure for a farm business enterprise.                                                                                                                                                                 | 2.1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Classify receipts and expenditure for a farm business enterprise.                                              |
| 3. Be able to calculate gross and net margins for a given farm business enterprise.                                                                                                                                                                | 3.1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Calculate gross and net margins for a farm business enterprise.                                                |
| 4. Understand the principles and application of benchmarking.                                                                                                                                                                                      | 4.1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Use a range of performance factors to assess a given business performance.                                     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 4.2.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Compare enterprise performance against industry benchmarks identifying strengths and weaknesses.               |
| 5. Be aware of the range of support available to farm businesses.                                                                                                                                                                                  | 5.1.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Identify the support available to farm businesses and how it may be accessed.                                  |
| <b>Assessment Guidance</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                |
| The following assessment method/s may be used to ensure all learning outcomes and assessment criteria are fully covered.                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                |
| <b>Assessment Method</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>Definition</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>Possible Content</b>                                                                                        |
| Portfolio of evidence                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | A collection of documents containing work undertaken to be assessed as evidence to meet required skills outcomes<br>OR<br>A collection of documents containing work that shows the learner’s progression through the course | Learner notes/written work<br>Learner log/diary<br>Peer notes<br>Record of observation<br>Record of discussion |

### 10.3 IT on the Farm

|                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Title                                                                                                                                                | IT on the Farm                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Level                                                                                                                                                | Two                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Credit Value                                                                                                                                         | 3                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Guided Learning Hours (GLH)                                                                                                                          | 24                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| OCN NI Unit Code                                                                                                                                     | CBA948                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Unit Reference No                                                                                                                                    | F/506/7264                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <i>Unit purpose and aim(s):</i> This unit will enable learners to develop an understanding of IT systems to help with farm business decision making. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Learning Outcomes                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Assessment Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 1. Understand the role and benefits of IT within a farm business.                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1.1. Specify the IT requirements for an effective farm office including:<br>a) hardware<br>b) communication technology<br>c) security and data management<br>1.2. Give examples of the uses and benefits of IT in a farming context.<br>1.3. Compare online services to paper based services. |
| 2. Understand how to use IT to collect, store, analyse and report farm data.                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 2.1. Illustrate how IT can be used to collect, store, analyse and report farm data.                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Assessment Guidance                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| The following assessment method/s may be used to ensure all learning outcomes and assessment criteria are fully covered.                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Assessment Method                                                                                                                                    | Definition                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Possible Content                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Portfolio of evidence                                                                                                                                | A collection of documents containing work undertaken to be assessed as evidence to meet required skills outcomes<br>OR<br>A collection of documents containing work that shows the learner's progression through the course | Learner notes/written work<br>Learner log/diary<br>Peer notes<br>Record of observation<br>Record of discussion                                                                                                                                                                                |

## 10.4 Crop Production

| Title                                                                                                                                                         | Crop Production                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Level                                                                                                                                                         | Two                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                |
| Credit Value                                                                                                                                                  | 5                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                |
| Guided Learning Hours (GLH)                                                                                                                                   | 40                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                |
| OCN NI Unit Code                                                                                                                                              | CBA943                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                |
| Unit Reference No                                                                                                                                             | T/506/7259                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                |
| <i>Unit purpose and aim(s):</i> This unit will enable learners to understand the requirements, preparation and management of crops for commercial production. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                |
| Learning Outcomes                                                                                                                                             | Assessment Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                |
| 1. Understand crop rotation.                                                                                                                                  | 1.1. Identify the factors involved in crop rotation.                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                |
| 2. Understand performance targets for main crop groups.                                                                                                       | 2.1. Identify performance targets for a given crop.                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                |
| 3. Understand information detailed in a soil analysis report.                                                                                                 | 3.1. Interpret information in a soil analysis report and apply it in a given situation.                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                |
| 4. Understand the importance of nutrient management planning in crop production.                                                                              | 4.1. Describe the importance of nutrient management planning in crop production.<br>4.2. Outline the content of a nutrient management plan.<br>4.3. Prepare a nutrient management plan.                                     |                                                                                                                |
| 5. Understand the importance of variety selection.                                                                                                            | 5.1. Identify appropriate crop varieties for a given situation.                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                |
| 6. Know the growth stages of a crop.                                                                                                                          | 6.1. Define the main growth stages of a particular crop.                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                |
| 7. Understand harvesting and storage requirements for crop production.                                                                                        | 7.1. Outline harvesting and storage requirements for crop production.<br>7.2. Select the preferred method of harvest and storage of a particular crop.                                                                      |                                                                                                                |
| Assessment Guidance                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                |
| The following assessment method/s may be used to ensure all learning outcomes and assessment criteria are fully covered.                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                |
| Assessment Method                                                                                                                                             | Definition                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Possible Content                                                                                               |
| Portfolio of evidence                                                                                                                                         | A collection of documents containing work undertaken to be assessed as evidence to meet required skills outcomes<br>OR<br>A collection of documents containing work that shows the learner's progression through the course | Learner notes/written work<br>Learner log/diary<br>Peer notes<br>Record of observation<br>Record of discussion |

## 10.5 Plant Health

| Title                                                                                                                                                                           | Plant Health                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Level                                                                                                                                                                           | Two                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                |
| Credit Value                                                                                                                                                                    | 4                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                |
| Guided Learning Hours (GLH)                                                                                                                                                     | 32                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                |
| OCN NI Unit Code                                                                                                                                                                | CBA944                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                |
| Unit Reference No                                                                                                                                                               | M/506/7261                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                |
| <i>Unit purpose and aim(s):</i> This unit will enable learners to identify pests and diseases associated with a crop and how they affect farm bio-security and pesticide usage. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                |
| Learning Outcomes                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Assessment Criteria                                                                                            |
| 1. Recognise the main diseases of a crop group.                                                                                                                                 | 1.1. Specify the main diseases of a given crop group.                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                |
| 2. Understand safety measures for farm bio-security.                                                                                                                            | 2.1. Determine the main safety measures for farm bio-security.                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                |
| 3. Recognise common pests of a crop group.                                                                                                                                      | 3.1. Identify common pests of a given crop group.<br>3.2. Outline best practice in relation to pesticide usage.                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                |
| Assessment Guidance                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                |
| The following assessment method/s may be used to ensure all learning outcomes and assessment criteria are fully covered.                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                |
| Assessment Method                                                                                                                                                               | Definition                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Possible Content                                                                                               |
| Portfolio of evidence                                                                                                                                                           | A collection of documents containing work undertaken to be assessed as evidence to meet required skills outcomes<br>OR<br>A collection of documents containing work that shows the learner’s progression through the course | Learner notes/written work<br>Learner log/diary<br>Peer notes<br>Record of observation<br>Record of discussion |

## 10.6 Livestock Production

| Title                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Livestock Production                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Level                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Two                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                |
| Credit Value                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 5                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                |
| Guided Learning Hours (GLH)                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 40                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                |
| OCN NI Unit Code                                                                                                                                                                                                               | CBA949                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                |
| Unit Reference No                                                                                                                                                                                                              | J/506/7265                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                |
| Unit purpose and aim(s): This unit will enable learners to understand the principles of livestock production systems relevant to own enterprise (dairy, beef, sheep pigs or poultry) and how these may be applied in practice. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                |
| Learning Outcomes                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Assessment Criteria                                                                                            |
| 1. Understand the main elements of a livestock production system.                                                                                                                                                              | 1.1. Outline the production cycle of a livestock enterprise.<br>1.2. Clarify the following in relation to a livestock enterprise:<br>a) animal husbandry procedures<br>b) key outputs and inputs<br>c) market requirements. |                                                                                                                |
| 2. Be able to prepare a breeding or replacement plan.                                                                                                                                                                          | 2.1. Outline the breeding/replacement cycle for an enterprise.<br>2.2. Assess the suitability of breeding/replacement stock.<br>2.3. Set breeding/replacement targets for a given enterprise.                               |                                                                                                                |
| 3. Be able to prepare a feeding plan.                                                                                                                                                                                          | 3.1. Determine the nutritional requirements of selected farm animals.<br>3.2. Compare the nutritional content of available feeds.<br>3.3. Prepare a feeding plan.                                                           |                                                                                                                |
| 4. Understand performance recording and targets.                                                                                                                                                                               | 4.1. Identify key performance indicators and targets of a given enterprise.<br>4.2. Assess the performance of a given enterprise identifying areas for improvement.                                                         |                                                                                                                |
| Assessment Guidance                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                |
| The following assessment method/s may be used to ensure all learning outcomes and assessment criteria are fully covered.                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                |
| Assessment Method                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Definition                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Possible Content                                                                                               |
| Portfolio of evidence                                                                                                                                                                                                          | A collection of documents containing work undertaken to be assessed as evidence to meet required skills outcomes<br>OR<br>A collection of documents containing work that shows the learner's progression through the course | Learner notes/written work<br>Learner log/diary<br>Peer notes<br>Record of observation<br>Record of discussion |
| Practical demonstration/assignment                                                                                                                                                                                             | A practical demonstration of a skill/situation selected by the tutor or by learners, to enable learners to practise and apply skills and knowledge                                                                          | Record of observation<br>Learner notes/written work<br>Learner log                                             |

## 10.7 Animal Health

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Title                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Animal Health                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Level                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Two                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Credit Value                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 4                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Guided Learning Hours (GLH)                                                                                                                                                                                    | 32                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| OCN NI Unit Code                                                                                                                                                                                               | CBA945                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Unit Reference No                                                                                                                                                                                              | K/506/7260                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Unit purpose and aim(s): This unit will enable learners to understand the principles of animal health relevant to own enterprise (dairy, beef, sheep, pigs or poultry) and how these may be put into practice. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Learning Outcomes<br>On completion of this unit the learner will:                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Assessment Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Recognise indicators of good and ill health in animals.                                                                                                                                                                     | 1.1 Describe common indicators of good and ill health in animals.                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 2                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Understand the prevention and treatment of common diseases and disorders in livestock.                                                                                                                                      | 2.1 Describe common diseases and disorders in livestock including:<br>a) prevention<br>b) treatment<br>c) impact on health and welfare                                                                                                                                                     |
| 3                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Understand how to promote and maintain the health and wellbeing of animals.                                                                                                                                                 | 3.1 Describe methods of preventative care and how to maintain animal health and wellbeing.<br>3.2 Identify current on-farm bio-security measures, including areas for improvements.<br>3.3 Prepare a plan to promote and maintain animal health and wellbeing for a production cycle/year. |
| 4                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Know how to use and administer veterinary medicines correctly including appropriate recording mechanisms.                                                                                                                   | 4.1 Identify how to correctly use and administer a named veterinary medicine.<br>4.2 Complete veterinary medicine record sheet.                                                                                                                                                            |
| Assessment Guidance                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| The following assessment method/s may be used to ensure all learning outcomes and assessment criteria are fully covered.                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Assessment Method                                                                                                                                                                                              | Definition                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Possible Content                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Portfolio of evidence                                                                                                                                                                                          | A collection of documents containing work undertaken to be assessed as evidence to meet required skills outcomes<br>OR<br>A collection of documents containing work that shows the learner’s progression through the course | Learner notes/written work<br>Learner log/diary<br>Peer notes<br>Record of observation<br>Record of discussion                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Practical demonstration/assignment                                                                                                                                                                             | A practical demonstration of a skill/situation selected by the tutor or by learners, to enable learners to practise and apply skills and knowledge                                                                          | Record of observation<br>Learner notes/written work<br>Learner log                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

## 11. Quality Assurance of Centre Performance

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### 11.1 Internal Assessment

When delivering and assessing these qualifications, centres must align with stakeholders' expectations and address learners' needs by implementing a practical and applied programme. Centres have the flexibility to customise programmes to meet local requirements and establish connections with local employers and the broader vocational sector.

The Assessor should work with the Internal Quality Assurer to ensure that the assessment is planned in line with OCN NI requirements. Assessment Plans must be developed and approved by the Internal Quality Assurer prior to the delivery of the qualification.

All units within these qualifications must undergo internal assessment. Learners must provide evidence that they have appropriately met all assessment criteria required for that grade.

The assessment format for all units involves a task conducted after the delivery of the unit's content, or part of it, if multiple tasks are used. Tasks may exhibit in various forms, encompassing practical and written types. Please refer to 'OCN NI's Assessment Definitions Guide' for additional details.

A task constitutes a distinct activity completed independently by learners, separated from teaching, practice, exploration, and other activities guided by tutors. Tasks are assigned to learners with a specified start date, completion date, and explicit requirements for the evidence to be produced. Some tasks may include observed practical components and require diverse forms of evidence.

A valid assignment will enable a clear and formal assessment outcome, which meets the requirements of the assessment criteria. Assessment decisions are based on the specific assessment criteria given in each unit and set at each grade level. The way in which individual units are written provides a balance of assessment of understanding, practical skills and vocational attributes appropriate to the purpose of qualifications.

It is the Assessor's role to ensure that learners are appropriately prepared for assessment, this begins from induction onwards. Assessors should ensure that learners understand how assessment tasks are used to determine the award of credit, the importance of meeting assessment timelines, and that all learners work must be independently created, where source documents are used this should be appropriately referenced, learners should be aware of what would constitute plagiarism and the possible consequences.

When conducting the assessment, Assessors must ensure they do not provide direct input, instructions or specific feedback which may compromise the authenticity of the work submitted.

Once the Assessor has authenticated the learners work, they must transparently demonstrate the rationale behind their assessment decisions. Once a learner completes all assigned tasks for a unit, the Assessor will allocate a grade for the unit. Refer to the 'Unit Grading Matrix' for additional information on the grading process.

Once the Assessor has completed the assessment process for the task, the assessment decision is recorded formally, and feedback is provided to the learner. The feedback should show the learner the outcome of the assessment decision, how it was determined or where the criteria has been met, it may indicate to the learner why achievement of the assessment criteria has not been met. It must be clear to the learner that this Assessment outcome is subject to verification.

For further information on assessment practice, please see the 'OCN NI Centre Handbook'. Assessment Training is also available and can be booked through the OCN NI Website.

## **11.2 Internal Quality Assurance**

The role of the Internal Quality Assurer is to ensure appropriate internal quality assurance processes are carried out. The Internal Quality Assurer must oversee that assessments are conducted in accordance with relevant OCN NI policies, regulations, and this specification.

The Internal Quality Assurer must ensure assessments are fair, reliable, and uniform, thereby providing a consistent standard for all learners.

Internal Quality Assurers are required to provide constructive feedback to Assessors, identifying areas of strength and those that may require improvement. This feedback contributes to the ongoing professional development of Assessors.

Contributing to the standardisation of assessment practices within the centre is an important function of this role. This entails aligning assessment methods, grading criteria, and decision-making processes to maintain fairness and equity.

Internal Quality Assurers will actively engage in the sampling and monitoring of assessments to ensure the consistency and accuracy of assessment decisions. This process helps identify trends, areas for improvement, and ensures the robustness of the overall assessment system.

For further information on Internal Quality Assurance practice, please see the 'OCN NI Centre Handbook'. Internal Quality Assurance Training is also available and can be booked through the OCN NI Website.

### 11.3 Documentation

For internal quality assurance processes to be effective, the internal assessment and Internal Quality Assurance team needs to keep effective records.

- The programme must have an assessment and Internal Quality Assurance plan. When producing a plan, they should consider:
  - the time required for training and standardisation activities
  - the time available to undertake teaching and carry out assessment,
  - consider when learners may complete assessments and when quality assurance will take place
  - the completion dates for different assessment tasks
  - the date by which the assignment needs to be internally verified
  - sampling strategies
  - how to manage the assessment and verification of learners' work so that they can be given formal decisions promptly
  - how resubmission opportunities can be scheduled.

The following documents are available from OCN NI and document templates can be found in the Centre Login section of the OCN NI website [www.ocnni.org.uk](http://www.ocnni.org.uk):

- A1 – Learner Assessment Record per Learner
- Learner Authentication Declarations
- Records of any reasonable adjustments applied for and the outcome – please see 'OCN NI's Reasonable Adjustments and Special Consideration Policy' for further information
- M1 Internal Quality Assurance Sample Record
- M2 Feedback to Assessor
- Records of any complaints or appeals

### 11.4 External Quality Assurance

All OCN NI recognised centres are subject to External Quality Assurance. External quality assurance activities will be conducted to confirm continued compliance with the CCEA Regulation General Conditions of Recognition, OCN NI terms and conditions and the requirements outlined within this qualification specification.

The External Quality Assurer is assigned by OCN NI. The External Quality Assurer will review the delivery and assessment of these qualifications. This will include, but is not limited to, the review of a sample of assessment evidence and evidence of the internal quality assurance of assessment and assessment decisions. This will form the basis of the External Quality Assurance report and will help OCN NI determine the centre's risk.

The role of the External Quality Assurer serves as an external overseer of assessment quality, working to uphold consistency, compliance, and continuous improvement within the assessment process. Their role is crucial in ensuring that assessments are valid, reliable, fair, and aligned with the required standards and regulations.

For further information on OCN NI Centre Assessments Standards Scrutiny (CASS) Strategy, please see the OCN NI Centre Handbook.

## 11.5 Standardisation

As a process, standardisation is designed to ensure consistency and promote good practice in understanding and the application of standards. Standardisation events:

- make qualified statements about the level of consistency in assessment across centres delivering a qualification
- make statements on the standard of evidence that is required to meet the assessment criteria for units in a qualification
- make recommendations on assessment practice
- produce advice and guidance for the assessment of units
- identify good practice in assessment and Internal Quality Assurance

Centres offering these qualifications must carry out internal standardisation activities prior to the claim for certification.

Centres offering units of an OCN NI qualification must attend and contribute assessment materials and learner evidence for standardisation events if requested.

OCN NI will notify centres of the nature of sample evidence required for standardisation events (this will include assessment materials, learner evidence and relevant Assessor and Internal Quality Assurer documentation). OCN NI will make standardisation summary reports available and correspond directly with centres regarding event outcomes.

## 12. Administration

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### 12.1 Registration

A centre must register learners for these qualifications within 20 days of commencement of the delivery of the programme.

For further information on learner registration please see the OCN NI Centre Handbook and the QuartzWeb Manual, available through the Centre Login section of the OCN NI website. Administration training is also available and can be booked through [www.ocnni.org.uk](http://www.ocnni.org.uk).

### 12.2 Certification

Once all internal quality assurance activities have been successfully completed, the centre can claim certification for the learner(s).

Certificates will be issued to centres within 20 working days from completion of a satisfactory external quality assurance activity, if appropriate, alternatively from the submission of an accurate and complete marksheet.

It is the responsibility of the centre to ensure that certificates received from OCN NI are held securely and distributed to learners promptly and securely.

For further information on the uploading of results please see the QuartzWeb Manual for guidance, administration training is also available and can be booked through [OCN NI](#)

### 12.3 Charges

OCN NI publishes all up-to-date qualification fees in its Fees and Invoicing Policy document. Further information can be found on the centre login area of the OCN NI website.

### 12.4 Equality, Fairness and Inclusion

OCN NI's are committed to ensuring all learners have an equal opportunity to access our qualifications and assessment, and that our qualifications are awarded in a way that is fair to every learner.

OCN NI is committed to making sure that:

- learners with a protected characteristic are not, when they are undertaking one of our qualifications, disadvantaged in comparison to learners who do not share that characteristic
- all learners achieve the recognition they deserve for undertaking a qualification and that this achievement can be compared fairly to the achievement of their peers

For information on reasonable adjustments and special considerations please see the OCN NI Centre Handbook and Reasonable Adjustments and Special Considerations Policy held in the back office of the OCN NI website.

### **12.5 Retention of Evidence**

OCN NI has published guidance for centres on the retention of evidence. Details are provided in the OCN NI Centre Handbook and can be accessed via the OCN NI website.

**OCN NI Level 2 Award in Agricultural Business Operations****Qualification Number: 601/4626/6****OCN NI Level 2 Certificate in Agricultural Business Operations****Qualification Number: 601/4627/8**

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Review date: 30 September 2032

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