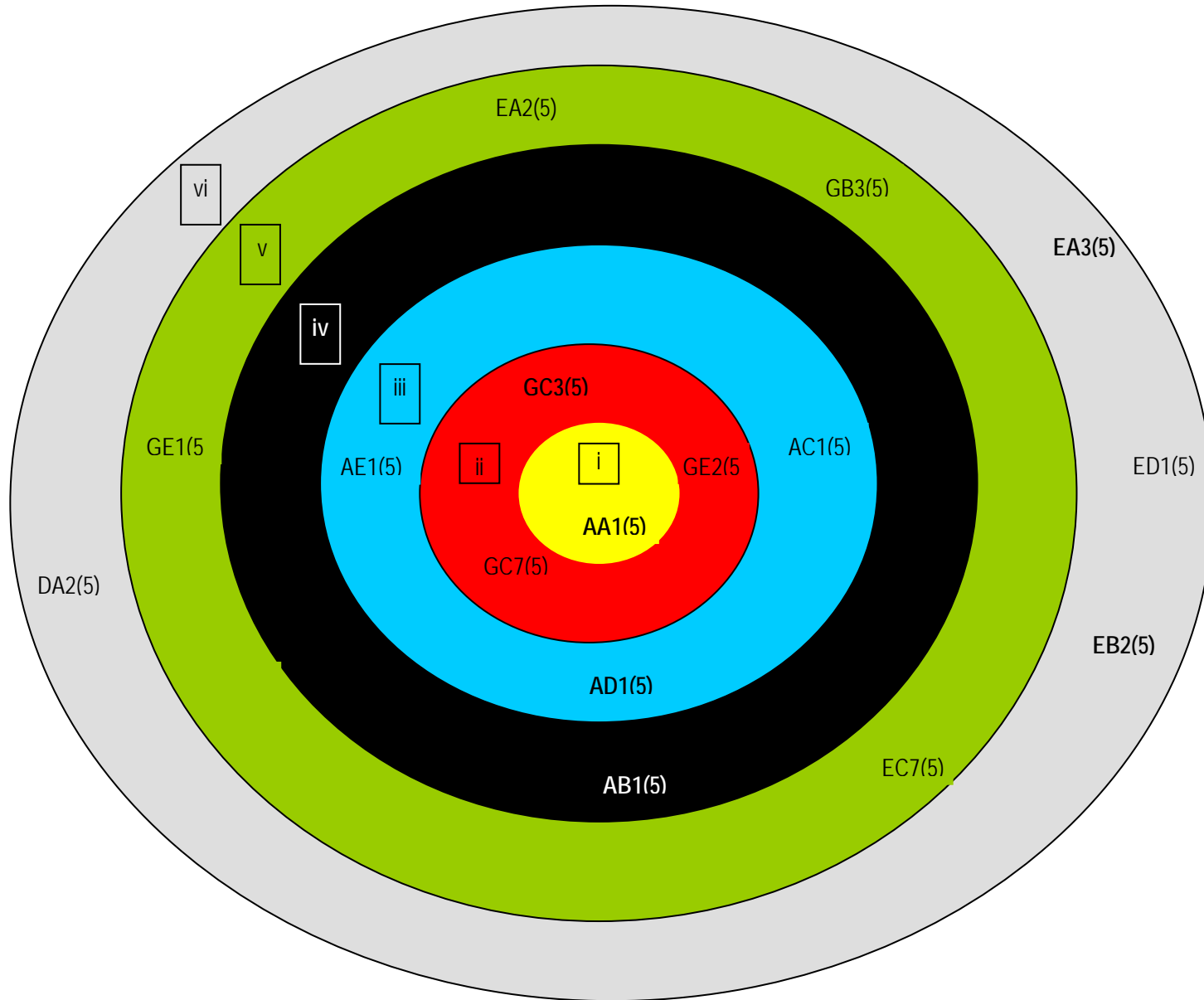


Appendix A212b Vocational Qualification Diploma in Probation Practice level 5 & Rules of Combination



i	Diversity	iii	Tactical skills	v	Supporting individuals
ii	Risk, protecting individuals	iv	Communication, Information	vi	Technical skills

Appendix A212b Vocational Qualification Diploma in Probation Practice level 5 & Rules of Combination

Key

Twelve units to be selected according to Rules of Combination (See below)

A minimum of 46 credits must be obtained (maximum of 50 credits)

Those units which are **not** in bold are “optional” units. Six optional units are to be selected for Part 2 of the Community Justice Degree or Part 1 of the Graduate Diploma. These must include at least one unit from the skills set “support individuals”.

Those in **bold** are mandatory units (**M**) and are taken in the 3rd part of the Community Justice Degree or 2nd part of the Graduate Diploma.

		Diversity	Credit	Level
AA1(5)	Promote equality and value diversity (M)		6	4
		Risk, Protect individuals		
GC7(5)	Contribute to the prevention and management of abusive and aggressive behaviour		4	5
GC3(5)	Assess and manage high risk of harm (L6 M)		5	6
GE2(5)	Assess and act upon immediate risk of danger to substance users		4	5
		Tactical skills		
AC1(5)	Contribute to the quality of team working		3	5
AD1(5)	Develop and sustain effective working with staff in other agencies (M)		3	5
AE1(5)	Maintain and develop your own knowledge, skills and competence		3	5
		Communication, information		
AB1(5)	Communicate effectively with people (M)		3	5
EA2(5)	Process information relating to individuals offending behaviour		4	5
		Support Individuals		
EC7(5)	Promote and reinforce positive behavioural goals during relationships with individuals		4	5
GB3(5)	Enable individuals to understand and address their difficulties		3	5
GE1(5)	Recognise indications of substance misuse and refer individuals to specialists		3	5
		Technical Skills		
DA2(5)	Represent the agency in courts and formal hearings		4	5
EA3(5)	Assess individuals offending behaviour and prepare reports (L6 M)		5	6

Appendix A212b Vocational Qualification Diploma in Probation Practice level 5 & Rules of Combination

ED1(5)	Plan, monitor and review integrated packages of interventions and support to address individuals offending behaviour	4	5
EB2 (5)	Plan, supervise, enforce and review sentences in the community (L6 M)	4	6

Details of the units are provided in the supporting document [VQ5](#) Vocation Qualification Diploma in Probation Practice level 5 units

Rules of Combination

These Rules of Combination apply to Vocational Qualifications which have been created and maintained by the NOMS HR Directorate for Probation Service Providers as part of the Probation Qualifications Framework.

The qualifications are:

- Vocational Qualification Diploma in Probation Practice at level 3** (Appendix 2.1.1.b)
- Vocational Qualification Diploma in Probation Practice at level 5** (Appendix 2.1.2.b)

1. Rationale for the Qualifications

Probation Service Providers need to attract, retain and develop capable and motivated staff to manage offenders effectively in the community, both to protect the public and provide a framework within which offenders can reform and reduce reoffending. As the requirements placed on the Service change and develop over time, the workforce needs to be flexible enough to respond and to meet the demands of the role and the expectations of the communities it serves.

The **Vocational Qualification Diploma in Probation Practice at level 3** has been designed to meet the current needs of all new Probation Services' Officers (PSO) working in a variety of setting. It is essential that all PSOs demonstrate competence in assessing risk of harm and need for interventions, work fundamental to the Service. Other core skills include; the ability to communicate and manage information effectively and respond to diverse needs of service users and others. Specific mandatory competences have therefore been identified in these areas. Additional credits must also be obtained from other aspects of work within common skills sets.

Those PSOs who wish to progress to work as Probation Officers will need to demonstrate competence at a higher level in offender management. **The Vocational Qualification Diploma in Probation Practice Management at level 5** has been designed for this purpose and includes 6 mandatory units which focus upon protection of the public and work with offenders who present a high risk of harm to others, and a further 6 units, selected from the skills sets Probation Officers also use in their everyday work. Although there are units at both level 5 and level 6, the overall qualification will be at level 5.

2. Rules of Combination for Vocational Qualification Diploma in Probation Practice at level 5

To gain the Vocational Qualification Diploma in Probation Practice at level 5 the following must be achieved.

- A total of 12 units with a minimum value of 46 credits must be achieved from across the six skills sets.
- Six of these units must be selected from the optional units below (Table 2)
- At least one of the optional units must be from the skills set “support individuals”.
- Units selected must include the six mandatory units in Table 3

Table 2. VQ5 Optional units

Skills Set	Risk, Protect individuals	Credit	Level
GC7(5)	Contribute to the prevention and management of abusive and aggressive behaviour	4	5
GE2(5)	Assess and act upon immediate risk of danger to substance users	4	5
Skills Set	Tactical skills		
AC1(5)	Contribute to the quality of team working	3	5
AE1(5)	Maintain and develop your own knowledge, skills and competence	3	5
Skills Set	Communication, information		
EA2(5)	Process information relating to individuals offending behaviour	4	5
Skills Set	Support Individuals		
EC7(5)	Promote and reinforce positive behavioural goals during relationships with individuals	4	5
GB3(5)	Enable individuals to understand and address their difficulties	3	5
GE1(5)	Recognise indications of substance misuse and refer individuals to specialists	3	5
Skills Set	Technical Skills		
DA2(5)	Represent the agency in courts and formal hearings	4	5
ED1(5)	Plan, monitor and review integrated packages of interventions and support to address individuals offending behaviour	4	5

Table 3 VQ5 Mandatory Units

- The six mandatory units **(M)** below must be demonstrated in addition to 6 optional units.

Appendix A212b Vocational Qualification Diploma in Probation Practice level 5 & Rules of Combination

Skills Set	Diversity	Credit	Level
AA1(5)	Promote equality and value diversity (M)	6	4
Skills Set	Risk, Protect individuals		
GC3(5)	Assess and manage high risk of harm (L6 M)	5	6
Skills Set	Tactical skills		
AD1(5)	Develop and sustain effective working with staff in other agencies (M)	3	5
Skills Set	Communication /Information		
AB1(5)	Communicate effectively with people (M)	3	5
Skills Set	Support Individuals		
EA3(5)	Assess individuals offending behaviour and prepare reports (L6 M)	5	6
EB2 (5)	Plan, supervise, enforce and review sentences in the community (L6 M)	4	6