General Comments

Centres are advised to read this report in conjunction with the published mark scheme and the section in the Specification where the performance of candidates at grades A and E is described.

SECTION A

Question 1a

Most candidates gained 1 mark here.

Question 1b

Only the stronger candidates gained marks on this question. The term ‘continuity of service’ was not well understood by many candidates.

Question 2

Many candidates did not mention any type of processing in their answers, just describing how to use an ATM and thus not gaining any credit.

Question 3a

This question was generally well answered by most candidates.

Question 3b

This question was generally well answered by most candidates.

Question 4

This question was generally well answered by most candidates.

Question 5

This question was about understanding what jobs were available to ICT professionals. The weaker candidates just gave a list without explaining the nature of the job, often with lengthy discussions about the personal qualities that would be needed without relating them to the job requirements. The stronger candidates were able to discuss the tasks relating to a specific job, discussing in detail what they would be expected to do.

SECTION B

Question 6

A good range of answers was seen for this question.

Question 7

It would seem that not many candidates understand what is meant by communications technologies. The ones that did were able gain credit by discussing NFC, Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, LTE including 3G and 4G.
Question 8

As usual a full range of marks was seen for this question. Candidates need to realise that legalisation is in place to deter people from trying to access personal data, it does not prevent it.

The quality of written communication and essay writing was reasonable, and comparable with previous years.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the Results Statistics page of the AQA Website.