

## **CONSTRUCTION CRAFT APPRENTICESHIP AT SCQF LEVEL 6 – SOLUTION UPDATE**

**On behalf of Scottish Government, SQA Accreditation, CITB Standard Setting Organisation and SQA Awarding Body**

As we emerge from the Covid-19 pandemic, some apprentices who enrolled on their Apprenticeship in 2017 onwards are continuing to experience difficulties gathering evidence for their portfolios.

### **Apprentice cohort 2017/18 – 2021/22 and 2018/19 – 2022/23 only**

For apprentices that are unable to gather all evidence for their SVQ, who registered from 2017 onwards and were due to complete in academic years 21/22 or 22/23, the following criteria is in place to aid their completion and should be considered in the shown order below:

- Assessment Planning, including the assessment of all evidence previously presented by the apprentice, skills scan and gap analysis, to take place for the completion of any remaining gaps in SVQ evidence. This should initially be through the use of assessment method such as direct observation, workplace evidence gathering, professional discussions, witness testimonies etc. (SQA continue to offer development visits, with a subject specialist EV, for the assistance and support of this process. To request a visit, please email [operationshmvq@sqa.org.uk](mailto:operationshmvq@sqa.org.uk))
- Apprentices within or beyond the final six months of their journey, can sit their Skills Test before the completion of their SVQ portfolio of evidence, providing a Skills Test Readiness Declaration (STRD) is completed and signed accordingly.  
(Ref: [Temporary Approach](#), Appendix 1)

**The signing of this declaration confirms the understanding of ALL parties that the completion of the Skills Test DOES NOT infer the completion of the SVQ, Apprenticeship or any related completion funding/grants that may apply.**

- Expert Witness involvement in Skills Tests will be suspended until further notice and the assessment decision will remain with the assessor, along with the relevant internal and external verification.
- Evidence captured from the completed Skills Test can be used to apply evidence towards any elements of the SVQ which remain outstanding within the portfolio.  
(Ref: [Temporary Approach](#), point 9)
- Any further gaps in SVQ knowledge evidence can continue to be filled, using mapping from the Professional Development Awards, allowing the apprentice to demonstrate that they have met the required standard. Mapping is available for some craft areas from SQA.  
(Ref: [SQA Secure Website](#), please note Centres co-ordinators hold a username and password for access to this secure site).
- As a final option, simulation may be considered providing the appropriate procedures are in place according to the Consolidated Assessment Strategy.  
(Ref: [Consolidated Assessment Strategy](#), Appendix C)

### **Apprentice cohort 2019 onward**

A working group will be set up to discuss proposals/solutions

### **Useful links**

[NVQs & SVQs \(Standards & Frameworks\) - CITB](#)

[Requirements for assessment of Scottish Vocational Qualifications \(SVQs\) in Construction](#)