



Skills England

Draft Preview

DRAFT APPRENTICESHIP ASSESSMENT PLAN FOR THE COUNTRYSIDE RANGER APPRENTICESHIP

ST0926/V2

APPRENTICESHIP REFERENCE NUMBER	LEVEL OF THIS APPRENTICESHIP	INTEGRATION
ST0926	4	None

Assessment Plan

Assessment details

Introduction

This Apprenticeship Assessment Plan (AAP) sets out the requirements for the assessment of the level 4 countryside ranger apprenticeship. It should be read in conjunction with the General Requirements for Apprenticeship Assessment. Where there is conflict between this AAP and the General Requirements, this AAP takes precedence. Assessment organisations must also comply with the relevant regulatory framework for apprenticeship assessment.

It is important that the assessment of apprentices is proportionate, valid, and provides reliable evidence of an apprentice's attainment of the relevant knowledge and skills. As such, assessment organisations must design assessments to ensure:

- employers have confidence that the apprentice has reached the expected performance standard
- apprentices are sufficiently secure in their knowledge and skills, so that they could demonstrate their competence in different contexts, for example, a different workplace

Assessment Outcomes

The assessment outcomes group and summarise the knowledge and skills that must be demonstrated in assessments. All assessment outcomes must be assessed.

Knowledge and skills statements in **bold** are mandatory and must be assessed in every version of the assessment that is made available.

Assessment Outcome	Mapping
AO1 Health, safety, legal compliance and environmental protection Maintains working practices by following legislation and organisational procedures. Identifies risks and implements control measures, responds to incidents and emergencies, and applies biosecurity and environmental protection measures to protect the working environment.	K1, K2, K18, K19 S1, S2, S3, S21
AO2 Habitat, species and land management Plans, delivers and evaluates habitat and land management work using ecological principles and survey data. Identifies species and habitats, selects techniques and balances differing environmental needs in support of conservation objectives.	K4, K5, K6, K13, K14 S4, S5, S9, S13, S14
AO3 Asset, infrastructure and public access management Plans, constructs, maintains and supervises the management of countryside assets, boundaries and public access routes. Uses tools, equipment, materials and surveys to support construction, maintenance and access activities.	K3, K11, K12 S10, S11, S12, S15, S16, S17
AO4 Work planning and project management Produces and implements work programmes and plans. Manages resources, budgets, risk and reporting throughout the project lifecycle to support the delivery of planned work.	K7, K8, K10 S6, S8, S25
AO5 Team leadership, volunteer support and supervisory practice Allocates tasks, supervises staff and volunteers and supports performance and development within the team. Contributes to the working environment and supports others' development through guidance and supervision.	K9, K15, K22 S7, S19, S24
AO6 Stakeholder engagement, public contact and communication	K16, K17, K20, K21 S18, S20, S22, S23

Communicates and collaborates with stakeholders to support working relationships. Designs and delivers environmental interpretation, public information and engagement activities to promote understanding of sites, habitats and management work.

Assessment requirements

Assessment organisations must set apprenticeship assessments. Assessment organisations should consider how technology and digital tools can support innovation and efficiency.

Assessment organisations must design apprenticeship assessments to include **at least one observation**.

Any additional assessment(s), must be selected from the following list of methods, to ensure the assessment outcomes are met in full. Assessments available in the list may be used more than once:

- **additional observation**
- **simulation**
- **written assessment**
- **professional discussion**
- **question and answer**
- **portfolio**

Apprentices may be assessed at any appropriate point during their apprenticeship programme.

Assessments may be designed to allow a centre or training provider to mark assessments. The assessment organisation is responsible for ensuring all assessments are sufficiently reliable and valid, and for the accuracy of any centre or training provider marking.

Performance descriptors

Performance descriptors describe the level of performance required to achieve a pass or distinction grade. Assessment organisations must design assessments that align with these descriptions.

Performance Category	Pass	Distinction
Applied Knowledge	Demonstrates sound application of countryside management knowledge to address well-defined but complex and non-routine problems, reaching appropriate, generally effective outcomes that meet organisational or sector expectations.	Applies countryside management knowledge with confidence and precision, consistently producing high quality outputs in response to well-defined but complex and non-routine problems. Solutions are not only appropriate but often enhance outcomes or processes.
Applied Skills	Identifies and applies suitable cognitive and practical skills to complete countryside ranger work activities, adapting as necessary to meet requirements. Methods chosen are generally appropriate, with results that meet organisational or sector expectations.	Adapts and applies cognitive and practical skills with a high degree of flexibility and operational fluency, ensuring that methods used in countryside ranger activities are effective and optimised for quality and efficiency of service outcomes.
Regulatory and Procedural Awareness	Applies relevant countryside legislation, regulation and organisational procedures with sound judgement, adapting appropriately to varied and occasionally complex situations to ensure compliance and environmental protection.	Interprets and applies countryside regulatory and procedural requirements with insight and appropriate flexibility, identifying implications and making informed decisions in varied and occasionally complex situations.
Communication and Collaboration	Communicates clearly and collaborates effectively with	Communicates and collaborates with confidence and insight,

	colleagues, volunteers, stakeholders and the public, contributing positively to service delivery and engagement within varied and occasionally complex situations.	tailoring approach to meet diverse stakeholder needs, contributing to improved collaboration, engagement and service outcomes across the occupational context.
Information Use and Decision Making	Analyses and interprets relevant information from a range of sources to make informed decisions, showing a clear awareness of the countryside ranger context and the broader scope of the role.	Analyses, interprets and evaluates information from a range of sources, providing insightful justification for decisions and demonstrating a strong awareness of broader implications within the countryside management occupational area.
Responsibility and Autonomy	Takes responsibility for actions and decisions within set parameters. Manages own work and the coordination of others in a countryside ranger context with adequate awareness of risks and priorities.	Proactively takes responsibility for actions and decisions within set parameters. Manages own work and the coordination of others, independently using sound judgment about risks and priorities to manage resources and activities.

Professional recognition

This apprenticeship aligns with the requirements for professional body recognition as detailed in the occupational standard.

Please contact the relevant professional body for further information.

Additional qualification

The qualifications detailed in the occupational standard must be completed before the end of the apprenticeship.

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