

End-point assessment plan for Asbestos Removal Operative apprenticeship standard

Apprenticeship standard reference number	Apprenticeship standard level	Integrated end-point assessment
ST0819	2	No

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Introduction and overview

This document sets out the requirements for end-point assessment (EPA) for the Asbestos Removal Operative apprenticeship standard. It is for end-point assessment organisations (EPAOs) who need to know how EPA for this apprenticeship must operate. It will also be of interest to Asbestos Removal Operative apprentices, their employers and training providers.

Full time apprentices will typically spend 12 months on-programme (before the gateway) working towards the occupational standard, with a minimum of 20% off-the-job training. All apprentices must spend a minimum of 12 months on-programme.

The EPA period should only start, and the EPA be arranged, once the employer is satisfied that the apprentice is deemed to be consistently working at or above the level set out in the occupational standard, all of the pre-requisite gateway requirements for EPA have been met and can be evidenced to an EPAO.

For level 2 apprenticeships, apprentices without English and mathematics at level 2 must achieve level 1 English and mathematics and take the tests for level 2 prior to taking their EPA.

The EPA must be completed within an EPA period lasting typically 3 month(s), after the EPA gateway.

EPA must be conducted by an organisation approved to offer services against this apprenticeship standard, as selected by the employer, from the Education & Skills Funding Agency's Register of End-point assessment Organisations (RoEPAO).

The EPA consists of 2 discrete assessment methods.

The individual assessment methods will have the following grades:

Assessment method 1: Practical Assessment with questioning

- Pass
- Fail

Assessment method 2: Interview underpinned by portfolio of evidence

- Pass
- Fail
- Distinction

Performance in the EPA will determine the overall apprenticeship standard and grade of:

- Pass
- Fail
- Distinction

EPA summary table

On-programme (typically 12 months)	Training to develop the occupation standard's knowledge, skills and behaviours (KSBs). Compilation of a portfolio of evidence
End-point assessment gateway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employer is satisfied the apprentice is consistently working at or above the level of the occupational standard. Apprentice has achieved English and mathematics at level 1 and taken the tests for level 2 Apprentice to submit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portfolio of evidence to underpin the interview
End-point assessment (which will typically take 3 months)	Assessment Method 1: Practical Assessment with questioning With the following grades: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fail • Pass Assessment Method 2: Interview underpinned by portfolio of evidence With the following grades: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fail • Pass • Distinction

Length of end-point assessment period

The EPA will be completed within an EPA period lasting typically of 3 months, after the EPA gateway.

Order of assessment methods

The assessment methods can be delivered in any order. The result of one assessment method does not have to be known before an apprentice starts the next one.

Gateway

The EPA period should only start once the employer is satisfied that the apprentice is consistently working at or above the level set out in the occupational standard, that is to say they are deemed to have achieved occupational competence. In making this decision, the employer may take advice from the apprentice's training provider(s), but the decision must ultimately be made solely by the employer.

In addition to the employer's confirmation that the apprentice is working at or above the level in the occupational standard, the apprentice must have completed the following gateway requirements prior to beginning EPA:

Apprentices without English and maths at level 1 will need to achieve this and those without level 2 will need to take the tests for level 2 prior to taking the EPA. For those with an education, health and care plan or a legacy statement, the apprenticeship's English and mathematics minimum requirement is Entry Level 3 and British Sign Language qualifications are an alternative to English qualifications for those for whom this is their primary language.

For Practical Assessment with questioning: No requirements.

For Interview underpinned by portfolio of evidence: the apprentice must have compiled and submitted a portfolio of evidence – see requirements below:

- apprentices must compile a portfolio of evidence during the on-programme period of the apprenticeship
- it must contain evidence related to the KSBs that will be assessed by the interview
- the portfolio of evidence will typically contain 10 discrete pieces of evidence
- evidence must be mapped against the KSBs
- evidence may be used to demonstrate more than one KSB; a qualitative as opposed to quantitative approach is suggested
- evidence sources may include:
 - workplace documentation/records, for example workplace policies/procedures, records
 - drawings and/or specifications the apprentice has worked to
 - witness statements
 - annotated photographs of work completed during programme, showing different stages and environments
 - video clips (maximum typical duration 2 minutes); the apprentice must be in view and identifiable

This is not a definitive list; other evidence sources are possible.

- it should not include any methods of self-assessment
- any employer contributions should focus on direct observation of performance (for example witness statements) rather than opinions
- the evidence provided must be valid and attributable to the apprentice; the portfolio of evidence must contain a statement from the employer and apprentice confirming this
- the portfolio of evidence must be submitted to the EPAO at the gateway

The portfolio is not directly assessed, it informs the questioning for the interview and allows the apprentice to refer to it to demonstrate competence. It underpins the interview and therefore should not be marked by the EPAO. EPAOs should review the portfolio in preparation for the interview but are not required to provide feedback after this review of the portfolio.

Assessment methods

Assessment Method 1: Practical Assessment with questioning

Overview

This assessment method has one component – practical assessment with questioning.

A practical assessment with questions involves an independent assessor observing and questioning an apprentice undertaking a set task or a series of set tasks in a simulated environment. The simulated environment must closely relate to their natural working environment.

The independent assessor will ask questions in relation to underpinning knowledge and/or skills and behaviours where an opportunity to observe them has not occurred.

The independent assessor may conduct and observe one apprentice at a time during this assessment method.

Rationale

A practical assessment is the most valid method of assessing the knowledge, skills, and behaviours attributed to this method. A simulated environment with simulated asbestos allows the safe assessment of the removal of a dangerous substance. In addition:

- it allows for a range of tasks to be observed that could not be achieved through an observation in the workplace
- this is a practical role, best demonstrated through completing tasks in a realistic work setting
- it makes use of existing facilities, which will ensure the availability of simulated asbestos in a safe environment
- it allows for consistency of activities to be completed and efficiency in scheduling
- questioning allows for the testing of related underpinning knowledge and/or skills and behaviours where an opportunity to observe them has not occurred
- it is a holistic assessment method

The practical assessment must take place in a simulated, safe environment using simulated asbestos. The rationale for this is that asbestos can be a very dangerous substance to store, transport and remove. Therefore, simulated asbestos must be used in the assessment in order to protect the apprentice, the assessor and the EPAO from unnecessary risk in the sourcing, transportation, storage and removal. Additionally, using simulated asbestos and a simulated environment helps to ensure consistency of assessment.

Delivery

Apprentices must be observed by an independent assessor completing tasks set by the EPAO and questioned in relation to the tasks' underpinning knowledge, skills and/or behaviours where an opportunity to observe them has not occurred.

Apprentices will be assessed against the KSBs assigned to this assessment method – as shown in mapping of KSBs.

Practical assessment with questioning specifications must be of equal challenge, capable of being completed by a competent asbestos removal operative.

The EPAO must arrange the practical assessment with questioning, in consultation with the apprentice's employer.

The practical assessment must be carried out over a total assessment time of 4 hours and 20 minutes, which consists of 4 hours for the practical assessment and 20 minutes for the questioning. Questioning will take place after the practical assessment. The practical assessment may not be split, other than to allow breaks as necessary to allow the apprentice to move from one location to another and for meal/comfort breaks. During these breaks, the clock must be stopped and then restarted to ensure that the practical assessment with questioning assessment duration is not reduced.

The independent assessor has the discretion to increase the time of the practical assessment and the questioning by up to 10%, to allow the apprentice to complete a task or complete an answer to a question.

Apprentices must be provided with both written and verbal instructions on the tasks they must complete during the practical assessment, including the timescales they are working to. Such instruction time is exclusive of the practical assessment with questioning assessment time.

The apprentice will be required to install and set up a licenced asbestos containment area in order to safely strip and remove simulated licenced asbestos materials. They will be required to comply with health and safety requirements throughout the task, and to keep damage to the containment area and surroundings to a minimum. The simulated asbestos must be removed, and the area made safe, within the assessment time.

The following activities must be observed during the practical assessment, that is a practical assessment without these tasks would seriously hamper the opportunity for the apprentice to demonstrate occupational competence in the KSBs assigned to this assessment method.

- Adhere to health and safety requirements throughout the task
- Install and remove enclosure area for removal of simulated asbestos materials
- Select, move, handle and store resources
- Strip and remove simulated asbestos materials
- Demonstrate productive working practices and maintain relevant records

The independent assessor must be unobtrusive whilst observing the practical assessment. Apprentices must have access to any relevant work instructions/manuals.

Questioning allows for the testing of related underpinning knowledge and/or skills and behaviours where an opportunity to demonstrate them has not occurred.

Questioning must take place after the practical assessment has been completed, so as not to interrupt the apprentices work and to enable sufficiently deep questioning to take place.

The independent assessor must ask a minimum of five questions to test related underpinning knowledge and behaviours. Additional follow up questions are allowed, to seek clarification and to make an assessment against the grading descriptors.

The EPAO must produce a bank of sample questions to assist the independent assessor, but these are for illustration only and the independent assessor should adapt their questions to the apprentice's individual circumstances.

KSBs observed, and answers to questions, must be documented by the independent assessor.

Evidence from the practical assessment with questioning must be assessed holistically using the grading criteria for this assessment method.

Independent assessors will make all grading decisions.

EPAOs must ensure that apprentices have a different practical assessment with questioning specification and set of questions in the case of re-sits/re-takes.

Venue

Practical assessment with questioning must be conducted in a safe, simulated environment at a location agreed between EPAO and employer. This will be one of the following locations:

- an employer's premises
- a suitable venue selected by the EPAO, for example, a training provider's premises or another employer's premises

The EPAO is responsible for ensuring that the apprentice is observed under conditions which are representative of normal workplace conditions for this occupation.

Where practical assessments take place off-site, the EPAO is responsible for ensuring the apprentice has the appropriate tools and equipment to complete the task. The EPAO may liaise with the employer to provide these resources.

The EPAO must ensure that the venue has the necessary equipment, tools and controlled conditions to allow the practical assessment with questioning to take place.

Questioning must take place in a quiet location, free from distractions and influence.

Support material

EPAOs will produce the following material to support this assessment method:

- guidance for apprentices, employers and training providers that outlines in detail how the practical assessment with questioning will operate
- practical assessment with questioning specification bank. The practical assessment with questioning specification bank must be of sufficient size to prevent predictability and reviewed regularly (and at least once a year) to ensure they, and the specifications they contain, are fit for purpose. The specifications, including questions relating to underpinning KSBs must be varied, yet allow assessment of the relevant KSBs. It is recommended specification banks are developed in consultation with employers of this occupation. EPAOs should put measures and procedures in place to maintain the security and confidentiality of their specifications if employers are consulted. Specifications must be standardised by the EPAO.
- assessment recording documentation

Assessment Method 2: Interview underpinned by portfolio of evidence

This assessment method has one component – interview underpinned by portfolio of evidence.

Overview

An interview consists of an independent assessor asking an apprentice a series of questions to assess their competence against the KSBs. The independent assessor's role is restricted to asking set questions. The independent assessor leads this process to obtain information from the apprentice to enable a structured assessment decision-making process.

Rationale

The rationale for this assessment method is:

- it allows for assessment of KSBs that do not occur on a predictable or regular basis
- it allows for testing of responses where there are a range of potential answers
- it is cost effective, as whilst seeking assurance of competence across a range of KSBs, it does not require the independent assessor to directly observe all of them thus reducing their time cost.

Delivery

Independent assessors must conduct and assess the interview on a one-to-one basis. The interview must be appropriately structured to draw out the best of the apprentice's competence.

Apprentices will be assessed against the KSBs assigned to this assessment method – as shown in mapping of KSBs.

EPAOs must make arrangements for the interview with the apprentice's employer. The EPAO will ensure the independent assessor has a minimum of 1 week to review the portfolio prior to the interview. The EPAO will ensure the apprentice has a minimum of 2 weeks' notice prior to the interview in order to prepare.

The interview must last for 60 minutes. The independent assessor has the discretion to increase the time of the interview by up to 10%, to allow the apprentice to complete their last answer.

The independent assessor must ask a minimum of ten open questions (2 per theme). Additional follow up questions are allowed, to seek clarification. The questions will be based on the following themes:

- Legislation and official guidance
- Organisational policies, procedures and contractual arrangements
- Working across domestic, commercial and industrial properties
- History, properties, and risks of asbestos
- Communication and relationship management

The EPAO must produce a bank of sample questions to assist the independent assessor, but these are for illustration only and the independent assessor should adapt their questions to the apprentice's individual circumstances following a review of their portfolio of evidence. EPAOs must ensure the independent assessor has sufficient time to review the portfolio ahead of the interview.

Apprentices can refer to and illustrate their answers with evidence from their portfolio of evidence, however the portfolio evidence is not directly assessed.

Apprentices are expected to understand and use relevant occupational language that would be typical of a competent person in this occupation.

The independent assessor must use the assessment tools and procedures that are set by the EPAO to record the interview.

Evidence from the interview underpinned by portfolio of evidence must be assessed holistically using the grading criteria for this assessment method.

Independent assessors will make all grading decisions.

EPAOs must ensure that apprentices have a different set of questions in the case of re-sits/re-takes.

Independent assessors must be developed and trained by the EPAO in the conduct of interviews and reaching consistent judgement.

Venue

The interview underpinned by portfolio of evidence must take place in a quiet room, free from distractions and influence.

The interview underpinned by portfolio of evidence can take place in any of the following:

- employer's premises
- a suitable venue selected by the EPAO, for example a training provider's premises or another employer's premises

Video conferencing can be used to conduct the interview underpinned for portfolio of evidence, but the EPAO must have processes in place to verify the identity of the apprentice and ensure the apprentice is not being aided in some way for example, by using a 360-degree camera.

Support material

EPAOs will produce the following material to support this assessment method:

- guidance for apprentices, employers and training providers that outlines in detail how the interview underpinned by portfolio of evidence will operate
- interview question bank. The interview question bank must be of sufficient size to prevent predictability and reviewed regularly (and at least once a year) to ensure that it, and its content, are fit for purpose. It is recommended that questions are developed in consultation with employers of this occupation. EPAOs must maintain the security and confidentiality of their questions when consulting employers
- assessment recording documentation

Reasonable adjustments

The EPAO must have in place clear and fair arrangements for making reasonable adjustments for this apprenticeship standard. This should include how an apprentice qualifies for reasonable adjustment and what reasonable adjustments will be made. The adjustments must maintain the validity, reliability and integrity of the assessment methods outlined in this assessment plan.

Weighting of assessment methods

All assessment methods are weighted equally in their contribution to the overall EPA pass grade. Performance in the interview underpinned by portfolio of evidence will determine whether a pass or distinction grade is awarded.

Grading

Assessment method 1: Practical assessment with questioning

KSBs	Fail	Pass
K8 S1 S2 S3 S4 S5 S6 S8 S9 S10 S11 S13 S14 S15 S16 S17 S18 B1.1 B1.4 B3	Does not meet the pass criteria	<p>Interprets the specification to prepare for the removal task, selecting the required quantity and quality of resources appropriate to the task. Plans the sequence of work in line with organisational procedures. (S1, S3, S8, S13, S15)</p> <p>Installs and removes asbestos enclosure or containment area, taking steps to minimise the risk of damage to work and surrounding areas at all times. (S4)</p> <p>Strips and removes asbestos as per the specification, taking steps to minimise the risk of damage to work and surrounding areas at all times. (S6, S9, S11)</p> <p>Safely handles, moves and stores, including manual handling and mechanical lifting, while preventing the risk of damage to occupational resources and surrounding environmental resources, and maintains safe working practices throughout the task. (K8, S2, S16, B3)</p> <p>Works responsibly to contribute to workplace health, safety and welfare whilst carrying out work in the relevant occupational area by complying with work procedures and all organisational and legislative requirements. (B1.1, B1.4)</p> <p>Completes the task within the allotted time, including the removal of the asbestos enclosure or containment areas, and stripping and removing asbestos, ensuring they have moved, handled and/or stored resources within allocated time frames, maintaining relevant records in line with organisational procedures. (S5, S10, S14, S17, S18)</p>

Assessment method 2: Interview underpinned by portfolio of evidence

KSBs	Fail	Pass	Distinction
K1 K2 K3 K4 K5 K6 K7 K9 K10 S7 S12 B1.2 B1.3 B2 B4	Does not meet the pass criteria	<p>Describes key requirements of relevant legislation and official guidance that they have applied when installing and removing licenced asbestos and asbestos enclosures/containment areas and how they apply to different environments, equipment and materials. (K1, K3, K4)</p> <p>Describes how to identify potential hazards that have not been previously controlled within their workplace environment and describes the process of reporting them in accordance with organisation-specific security procedures. (K5, K6, K7)</p> <p>Outlines a history of asbestos use in the built environment and describes the different types of asbestos, their properties, risks to the environment and the actions to take when discovered. (K9, K10)</p> <p>Describes the differences in approach required when installing or removing asbestos enclosure areas and stripping/removing asbestos in different environments such as domestic, commercial or industrial. (K2, S7)</p> <p>Describes the importance of speaking up and stopping work when problems and potential safety issues arise. Explains how they have taken responsibility to minimise risks when under pressure. (B1.2, B1.3)</p> <p>Explains how they have maintained good working relationships and how that has helped them to conform to productive working practices. (B2)</p>	<p>In order to awarded a distinction in this assessment method, all of the following criteria must be met.</p> <p>Explains why it is important to be aware of and follow legislation and official guidance relevant to asbestos removal. (K1, K3, K4)</p> <p>Explains how security arrangements and procedures impact on their job role (K7)</p> <p>Explains how working practices could be improved when stripping and removing licensed asbestos from a variety of environments including domestic, commercial and industrial properties (S7)</p> <p>Explains why they used different approaches, equipment and materials when removing asbestos from different environments and the implications of the choices made. (K2)</p> <p>Explains how they have used their own skills and behaviours to respond to customer and colleague needs and how this contributed to effective working relationships. (S12, B4)</p>

		Explains how they have used their communication skills to present a professional approach to colleagues and clients, and in order to establish productive work practices. (S12, B4)	
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Overall EPA grading

All EPA methods must be passed for the EPA to be passed overall. In order to achieve a distinction, apprentices must achieve a distinction in the interview underpinned by portfolio of evidence and a pass in the practical assessment with questioning.

Practical assessment with questioning	Interview underpinned by portfolio of evidence	Overall grading
Pass	Distinction	Distinction
Pass	Pass	Pass
Fail	Pass	Fail
Pass	Fail	Fail
Fail	Fail	Fail

Re-sits and re-takes

Apprentices who fail one or more assessment method/s will be offered the opportunity to take a re-sit or a re-take at the employer's discretion. The apprentice's employer will need to agree that either a re-sit or re-take is an appropriate course of action.

A re-sit does not require further learning, whereas a re-take does.

Apprentices should have a supportive action plan to prepare for the re-sit or a re-take.

The timescales for a re-sit/re-take is agreed between the employer and EPAO. A re-sit is typically taken within 2 months of the EPA outcome notification. The timescale for a re-take is dependent on how much re-training is required and is typically taken within 3 months of the EPA outcome notification.

All assessment methods must be taken within a 3 month period, otherwise the entire EPA will need to be re-sat/re-taken.

Re-sits and re-takes are not offered to apprentices wishing to move from pass to a higher grade.

Where any assessment method has to be re-sat or re-taken, the apprentice will be awarded a maximum EPA grade of pass, unless the EPAO determines there are exceptional circumstances requiring a re-sit or re-take.

Roles and responsibilities

Role	Responsibility
Apprentice	<p>As a minimum, apprentices should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • participate in and complete on-programme training to meet the KSBs as outlined in the occupational standard for a minimum of 12 months • undertake 20% off-the-job training as arranged by the employer and training provider • understand the purpose and importance of EPA • undertake the EPA including meeting all gateway requirements
Employer	<p>As a minimum, employers should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work with the training provider (where applicable) to support the apprentice in the workplace to provide the opportunities to develop the KSBs • arrange and support a minimum of 20% off-the-job training to be undertaken by the apprentice • decide when the apprentice is working at or above the occupational standard and so is ready for EPA • select the EPAO • ensure that all supporting evidence required at the gateway is submitted in accordance with this EPA plan • remain independent from the delivery of the EPA • confirm arrangements with the EPAO for the EPA (who, when, where) in a timely manner (including providing access to any employer specific documentations as required, for example company policies) • ensure that the EPA is scheduled with the EPAO for a date and time which allow appropriate opportunity for the KSBs to be met • ensure the apprentice is well prepared for the EPA • ensure the apprentice is given sufficient time away from regular duties to prepare for and complete any post-gateway elements of the EPA, and that any

	<p>required supervision during this time (as stated within this EPA plan) is in place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • where the apprentice is assessed in the workplace, ensure that the apprentice has access to the resources used on a daily basis
EPAO	<p>As a minimum, EPAOs should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • agree the EPA price • understand the occupational standard • appoint administrators (and invigilators where required) to administer the EPA as appropriate • provide training for independent assessors in terms of good assessment practice, operating the assessment tools and grading • provide adequate information, advice and guidance documentation to enable apprentices, employers and training providers to prepare for the EPA • arrange for the EPA to take place, in consultation with the employer • deliver the EPA as outlined in this EPA plan in a timely manner • where the apprentice is not assessed in the workplace, ensure that the apprentice has access to required resources and liaise with the employer to agree this if necessary • use appropriate assessment recording documentation to ensure a clear and auditable process is in place for providing assessment decisions and feedback to all relevant stakeholders • have no direct connection with the apprentice, their employer or training provider. In all instances including when the EPAO is the training provider (i.e. HEI) there must be no conflict of interest • have policies and procedures for internal quality assurance (IQA), and maintain records of regular and robust IQA activity and moderation for external quality assurance (EQA) purposes • conform to the requirements of the nominated external quality assurance provider (EQAP) • conform to the requirements of the Register of End-Point Assessment Organisations (RoEPAO) • deliver induction training for independent assessors, and for invigilators and markers where used • undertake standardisation activity on this apprenticeship standard for all independent assessors before they conduct an EPA for the first

	<p>time, if the EPA is updated and periodically as appropriate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • manage invigilation of apprentices in order to maintain security of the assessment in line with their malpractice policy • verify the identity of the apprentice being assessed • use language in the development and delivery of the EPA that is appropriate to the level of the occupational standard • request certification via the Apprenticeship Service upon successful achievement of the EPA
Independent assessor	<p>As a minimum, an independent assessor should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have the competence to assess the apprentice at this level and hold any required qualifications and experience in line with the requirements of the independent assessor as detailed in the IQA section of this EPA plan • understand the occupational standard and the requirements of this EPA • have, maintain and be able to evidence up to date knowledge and expertise of the subject matter • deliver the end-point assessment in-line with the EPA plan • comply with the IQA requirements of the EPAO • have no direct connection or conflict of interest with the apprentice, their employer or training provider; in all instances including when the EPAO is the training provider (i.e. HEI) • attend induction training • attend standardisation events when they begin working for the EPAO, before they conduct an EPA for the first time and a minimum of twice annually on this apprenticeship standard • assess each assessment method, as determined by the EPA plan, and without extending the EPA unnecessarily • assess against the KSBs assigned to each assessment method, as shown in the mapping of assessment methods and as determined by the EPAO, and without extending the EPA unnecessarily • make all grading decisions • record and report all assessment outcome decisions, for each apprentice, following instructions and assessment recording documentation provided by the EPAO in a timely manner

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use language in the development and delivery of the EPA that is appropriate to the level of the occupational standard
Training provider	<p>As a minimum, the training provider should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work with the employer and support the apprentice during the off-the-job training to provide the opportunities to develop the knowledge, skills and behaviours as listed in the occupational standard • conduct training covering any knowledge, skill or behaviour requirement agreed as part of the Commitment Statement (often known as the Individual Learning Plan). • monitor apprentices progress during any training provider led on-programme learning • advise the employer, upon request, on the apprentice's readiness for EPA • remain independent from delivery of the EPA. Where the training provider is the EPA (i.e. HEI) there must be procedures in place to mitigate against any conflict of interest

Internal Quality Assurance (IQA)

Internal quality assurance refers to the requirements that EPA organisations must have in place to ensure consistent (reliable) and accurate (valid) assessment decisions. EPA organisations for this EPA must:

- appoint independent assessors who have:
 - have recent relevant experience of the occupation/sector gained in the last three years or significant experience of the occupation/sector and evidence of continued professional development. This should be at least at the same level as the apprenticeship standard.
 - hold or be working towards an independent assessor qualification, for example TAQA (Training and Quality Assessment)
- provide training for independent assessors in terms of good assessment practice, operating the assessment tools and grading
- have robust quality assurance systems and procedures that support fair, reliable and consistent assessment across the organisation and over time
- operate induction training and standardisation events for independent assessors when they begin working for the EPAO on this apprenticeship standard and before they deliver an updated assessment method for the first time
- ensure independent assessors attend standardisation events on an ongoing basis and at least twice per year

Affordability

Affordability of the EPA will be aided by using at least some of the following practices:

- The option of using an employer's venue for the interview underpinned by portfolio of evidence and knowledge test
- The option of using video conferencing for the interview underpinned by portfolio of evidence
- The possibility of scheduling multiple assessment methods on the same day

Professional body recognition

Professional body recognition is not relevant to this occupational apprenticeship.

Mapping of knowledge, skills and behaviours (KSBs)

Assessment method 1: Practical Assessment with questioning

Knowledge
K8 The movement, handling and/or storing of resources including manual handling and mechanical lifting.

Skills
S1 Interpret the given information relating to the work and resources when installing and removing licensed asbestos enclosure or containment areas
S2 Maintain safe working practices when installing and removing licensed asbestos enclosure or containment areas
S3 Select the required quantity and quality of resources for the methods of work to install and remove licensed asbestos enclosure or containment areas
S4 Minimise the risk of damage to the work and surrounding area when installing and removing licensed asbestos enclosure or containment areas
S5 Complete the work within the allocated time when installing and removing licensed asbestos enclosure or containment areas
S6 Interpret the given information relating to the work and resources when stripping and removing licensed asbestos
S8 Select the required quantity and quality of resources for the methods of work to strip and remove licensed asbestos
S9 Minimise the risk of damage to the work and surrounding area when stripping and removing licensed asbestos
S10 Complete the work within the allocated time when stripping and removing licensed asbestos
S11 Comply with the given contract information to strip and remove licensed asbestos materials to the required specification
S13 Follow organisational procedures to plan the sequence of work
S14 Maintain relevant records in accordance with the organisational procedures:
S15 Select the required quantity and quality of resources for the methods of work to move, handle and/or store occupational resources
S16 Prevent the risk of damage to occupational resources and surrounding environment when moving, handling and/or storing resources
S17 Complete the work within the allocated time when moving, handling and/or storing resources
S18 Move, handle and/or store resources in a timely manner and within allocated time frames.

Behaviours
B1.1 Work responsibly to contribute to workplace health, safety and welfare whilst carrying out work in the relevant occupational area.
B1.4 Adhere to safe systems of work and relevant procedures.
B3 Maintain safe working practices when moving, handling and/or storing resources

Assessment method 2: Interview underpinned by portfolio of evidence

Knowledge
K1 Legislation and official guidance relevant to installing and removing licensed asbestos enclosure or containment areas, whilst working in the workplace, below ground level, at height, in confined spaces, with tools and equipment, and with materials and substances.
K2 Compliance with the given contract information to install and remove licensed asbestos enclosure or containment areas to the required specification from a variety of environments including domestic, commercial and industrial properties.
K3 Legislation and official guidance relevant to stripping and removing licensed asbestos, including responsibilities under current legislation and official guidance whilst working in the workplace, below ground level, at height, in confined spaces, with tools and equipment, with materials and substances, with movement/storage of materials, and by manual handling and mechanical lifting.
K4 Workplace health, safety and welfare legislation requirements.
K5 Hazards associated with the workplace that have not been previously controlled, the reporting of them in accordance with organisational procedures, such as manual handling, faulty equipment, sharps, electrical hazards, slips and trips, working at height, and biological and chemical hazards.
K6 Organisation-specific policies and procedures.
K7 The various security arrangements and approved procedures.
K9 The different types of asbestos and their properties. Chrysotile, Amosite and Crocidolite. The history of asbestos use in the built environment and the different areas it can be found. What action to take when it is discovered.
K10 The risks posed to the environment by asbestos.

Skills
S7 Maintain safe working practices when stripping and removing licensed asbestos from a variety of environments including domestic, commercial and industrial properties.
S12 Communicate with others to establish productive work practices

Behaviours

B1.2 Recognise and speak up when problems and potential safety issues arise and stop work immediately.
B1.3 Remain calm under pressure and take responsibility to minimise risks. Adhere to safe systems of work and relevant procedures.
B2 Maintain good working relationships when conforming to productive working practices
B4 Adopt a professional approach to the work, colleagues and client