

City & Guilds Level 2 Award in The Safe Application of Pesticides Using Pedestrian Hand Held Equipment (PA6) (0216-54)

Version 1.2 (February 2025)

Assessment Pack – Candidate Version

Version and date	Change detail	Section
1.0 February 2024	First version	All
1.1 July 2024	Correction to Introduction of Unit 152 and 153	Introduction Page 3
1.2 February 2025	Updated Unit Numbers Formatting	Throughout

Contents

Introduction	4
Practical observation descriptor table	7
Unit 265 Operating pedestrian handheld applicators fitted with hydraulic nozzles or rotary atomisers to apply pesticides to land	7
Unit 266 Operating pedestrian handheld applicators fitted with hydraulic nozzles or rotary atomisers to apply pesticides to or near water	12
Unit 267 Operating pedestrian handheld applicators to apply pesticide pellets or granules to land18)
Unit 268 Operating pedestrian handheld applicators to apply pesticide pellets or granules to near water	or 22
Unit 269 Installing pesticide plugs in tree stumps	27
Unit 270 Operating handheld pesticide injection equipment	30
Unit 271 Operating other Handheld Applicators Requiring Minimal Calibration	34
Appendix 1 Practical table	39
Unit 265 Operating pedestrian handheld applicators fitted with hydraulic nozzles or rotary atomisers to apply pesticides to land	39
Unit 266 Operating Pedestrian Handheld Applicators Fitted with Hydraulic Nozzles or Rotary Atomisers to apply Pesticides to or Near Water	y 40
Unit 267 Operating pedestrian handheld applicators to apply pesticide pellets or granules to land41)
Unit 268 Operating pedestrian handheld applicators to apply pesticide pellets or granules to near water	or 42
Unit 269 Installing pesticide plugs in tree stumps	43
Unit 270 Operating handheld pesticide injection equipment	44
Unit 271 Operating handheld applicators requiring minimal calibration	45
Appendix 2 Sources of general information	46

3

Introduction

This assessment relates to the unit in the Qualification handbook. The assessment can be achieved at pass only. If any task is not yet met the candidate is unsuccessful.

This assessment is for the following units and learning outcomes:

Unit 265 Operating pedestrian handheld applicator fitted with hydraulic nozzles or rotary atomisers to apply pesticides to land covering the following learning outcomes:

- 1. Know the legislative and safety regulations relating to applicator use
- 2. Be able to assess the environmental factors relating to mixing and application
- 3. Be able to read and interpret product information
- 4. Be able to prepare and calibrate a handheld pedestrian applicator
- 5. Be able to operate the application equipment
- 6. Know how to carry out post-operational procedures

Unit 266 Operating pedestrian handheld applicators fitted with hydraulic nozzles or rotary atomisers to apply pesticides to or near water covering the following learning outcomes:

- 1. Know the legislative and safety regulations relating to applicator use
- 2. Be able to assess the environmental factors relating to mixing and application
- 3. Be able to read and interpret product information
- 4. Be able to prepare and calibrate a handheld pedestrian applicator
- 5. Be able to operate the application equipment
- 6. Know how to carry out post-operational procedures

Unit 267 Operating pedestrian handheld applicators to apply pesticide pellets or granules to land covering the following learning outcomes:

- 1. Know the legislative and safety regulations relating to applicator use
- 2. Be able to assess the environmental factors relating to the application site
- 3. Be able to read and interpret product information
- 4. Be able to prepare and calibrate a handheld pedestrian applicator
- 5. Be able to operate the applicator
- 6. Know how to carry out post-operational procedures

Unit 268 Operating pedestrian handheld applicators to apply pesticide pellets or granules to or near water covering the following learning outcomes:

- 1. Know the legislative and safety regulations relating to applicator use
- 2. Be able to assess the environmental factors relating to the application site
- 3. Be able to read and interpret product information
- 4. Be able to prepare and calibrate a handheld pedestrian applicator
- 5. Be able to operate the applicator
- 6. Know how to carry out post-operational procedures

Unit 269 Installing pesticide plugs in tree stumps covering the following learning outcomes:

- 1. Know the legislative and safety regulations relating to pesticide plug installation
- 2. Be able to assess the environmental factors relating to the installation site
- 3. Be able to read and interpret product information
- 4. Be able to prepare pesticide plug application equipment and calculate numbers of plugs required
- 5. Be able to install pesticide plugs

6. Know how to carry out post-operational procedures

Unit 270 Operating handheld pesticide injection equipment covering the following learning outcomes:

- 1. Know the legislative and safety regulations relating to pesticide injection equipment
- 2. Be able to assess the environmental factors relating to the site
- 3. Be able to read and interpret product information
- 4. Be able to prepare and calibrate the pesticide injection equipment
- 5. Be able to inject pesticide
- 6. Know how to carry out post-operational procedures

Unit 271 Operating handheld applicators requiring minimal calibration covering the following learning outcomes:

- 1. Know the legislative and safety regulations relating to applicator use
- 2. Be able to assess the environmental factors relating to the site
- 3. Be able to read and interpret product information
- 4. Be able to prepare and calibrate a handheld applicator
- 5. Be able to operate the application equipment
- 6. Know how to carry out post-operational procedures

General guidance on the requirements for assessment can be found in the Assessor Guidance General guidance on the requirements for assessment can be found in the Assessor Guidance document available on the City & Guilds web site www.nptc.org.uk

The assessor must complete the Practical Table mark sheet for each candidate which should be kept by the assessor for a minimum period of twelve months.

Record of assessment (ROA)

A prepopulated record of assessment must be completed by the assessor following an assessment. The number of outcomes is listed above; these must be ticked into the relevant met or not met sections of the ROA.

ARAS Forms

An Assessment Result Advice Slip (ARAS form) must be completed by the assessor following an assessment. The ARAS is not a certificate but, based on the evidence of the candidate's performance, is a recommendation to City & Guilds that the candidate has either met or not met the assessment criteria. All feedback is to be recorded by the assessor on the feedback section of the ARAS form.

Assessment Time

The expected assessment time for this qualification is 1.5 - 3 hours.

Summary of responsibilities in the assessment process

Centre responsibilities	Candidate responsibilities	Assessor responsibilities
A suitable site is made available for the assessment to take place		Ensuring that the site provided is suitable for the assessment to take place
Machinery, equipment and materials are available to enable assessment of all the activities to take place	To be familiar with the machinery/equipment being used for the assessment	Ensuring that the machinery, equipment and materials provided satisfy the assessment requirements
	To bring appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to the assessment	Ensuring that candidate's PPE complies with the requirements of the assessment
	To bring relevant training materials (including calibration sheet if applicable)	
	To bring a product label appropriate for the assessment	To ensure that the product label is appropriate for the assessment (or provide a suitable alternative)

This is not an open book assessment, however additional technical information may be sought from the relevant manufacturer's operator manuals or any other appropriate training or safety publication.

6

Practical observation descriptor table

Unit 265 Operating pedestrian handheld applicators fitted with hydraulic nozzles or rotary atomisers to apply pesticides to land

	ctivity number and rightion from check list	Assessment criteria
1.1	Describe the legal requirements relating to applying pesticides using handheld pedestrian equipment	 May include: all required guards are in place and equipment complies with legal requirements comply with The Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012 the operator must hold the appropriate certification for the equipment they are using
1.2	Describe how to apply pesticides safely using handheld pedestrian equipment following industry best practice	May include:
2.1	Identify risks to the environment	May include the following:

		Evaloration may include the following points:
	Explain how to	Explanation may include the following points:
	minimize risks to the	check and maintain application rate
	environment	avoid spray drift
		avoid off target application
		observe buffer zones
		inform neighbours
		erect warning signs
		 use an appropriate pesticide (minimal
		environmental impact)
		appropriate timing of application
		Reasons for minimising spray drift:
		avoidance of contamination to people and the
0.0		environment
2.2		Check and comment on wind speed:
		use of an anemometer at suitable height or visual
		signs
		wind direction
		Factors that affect spray drift:
		weather conditions
		direction of spraying
		nozzle type and size
		pressure
		•
		walking speed pozzle height
		nozzle height
		rotary atomiser speed
		defective equipment
	Read product	To include the following:
	information	product name
		active substance(s) (ingredient(s))
	Interpret product	Important information:
	information	field of use
		crop/target
		maximum individual dose
		maximum total dose
		 maximum number of treatments
		May include the following:
		 specific product precautions/warnings
		operator protection
3.1		environmental protection
_		restrictions on use
3.2		Crop specific information:
		crop/target
		dose rate
		water volume
		• timing
		Mixing and spraying:
		• filling
		reduced volume applications (if applicable)
		recommended nozzles
		recommended pressure
		spray quality
		additional label information
		compatibility

4.1	Carry out pre use checks to the sprayer/applicator	To include:
4.2	Identify suitable operating pressure and select nozzles according to application requirements	Identify and explain the use of nozzles: • deflector - medium/coarse spray quality. Generally used to apply herbicides • air inclusion - medium/coarse spray quality. Good drift reduction properties • full cone - medium/coarse spray quality. Suitable for spot treatment and spraying around obstacles • fan nozzle - fine, medium or coarse spray quality. General purpose Fit required nozzle and select pressure: • suitable nozzle selected • nozzle fitted correctly • correct pressure selected Check nozzle condition and spray pattern: • nozzle undamaged
4.3	Calibrate the sprayer/applicator and record relevant data	 correct spray pattern for nozzle Calibration to include: calculation of water volume rate check water volume rate against product information recommendations Calibration data may include: applicator used walking speed nozzle(s) fitted (swath width if appropriate) pressure setting flow rate
4.4	Measure the area to be treated	To include:
4.5	Calculate the area to be treated	To include: • accurate calculation of area

4.6	Calculate the quantities of pesticide and water required, if applicable	To include:
5.1	Measure the required quantities and add to the applicator, or attach pesticide container	To include:
5.2	Demonstrate safe and accurate application procedures	To include: treatment area clearly identified walking speed maintained accurate switching on/off points accurate matching of bouts obstacles dealt with correctly (if applicable) area treated minimising overlaps and misses awareness of changing weather conditions and appropriate action taken (if applicable) avoidance of off target application/contamination
5.3	Carry out all activities protecting human health and the environment	To include: • prevention of personal injury and contamination through correct selection and use of PPE (as required by the product information, COSHH and Risk Assessment) • prevention of public/bystander contamination • safe filling procedure • avoidance of spray drift • avoidance of off target application/contamination • avoidance of overdosing/under dosing crop/target/plant material
5.4	Complete a treatment record	Completion of the treatment record must be:
6.1	Explain how to manage surplus pesticide and dispose of waste material	Surplus concentrate pesticide:

		 thoroughly emptied placed in secure storage until disposal collected by a licensed waste disposal contractor Surplus dilute pesticide: back on to site as long as it is below the maximum dose rate use on another approved crop/target treated by specialist treatment facility on site (e.g. a lined bio bed)
6.2	Explain how to clean and decontaminate the sprayer/applicator	 collected by a licensed waste disposal contractor May include: select and use appropriate PPE appropriate site thorough washing with water and suitable cleaning agent (if recommended/required) internal and external surfaces care to ensure contamination 'hot spots' are clean thorough flushing of system safe disposal of contaminated washings when cleaning should take place safe procedures followed
6.3	Describe the storage requirements for the sprayer/applicator	May include:

Unit 266 Operating pedestrian handheld applicators fitted with hydraulic nozzles or rotary atomisers to apply pesticides to or near water

Δc	tivity number and	Assessment criteria
	iption from check list	Assessment enteria
1.1	Describe the legal requirements relating to applying pesticides to or near water using handheld pedestrian equipment	 May include: all required guards are in place and equipment complies with legal requirements comply with The Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012 the operator must hold the appropriate certification for the equipment they are using Both required: ensure the pesticide has aquatic approval seek environmental agency approval
1.2	Describe how to apply pesticides safely to or near water using handheld pedestrian equipment following industry best practice	May include:

		availability of life ring/rescue devices
		-
2.1	Identify risks to the aquatic environment	May include the following: ground conditions wildlife non-target plants environmental margins/strips/areas hedgerows housing public access sensitive crops/areas water courses boreholes livestock drinking points recreational use of water body/course water extraction points de-oxygenation of water removal of fish cover removal of bankside wildlife habitat removal of bankside vegetation leading to bank erosion other risks specific to the site
2.2	Explain how to minimize risks to the environment	Explanation may include the following points: • work in an upstream direction • check weather suitability before treatment • check downstream uses before treatment • seek environmental agency approval • use of an appropriate pesticide (minimal environmental impact) • appropriate timing of treatment Reasons for minimizing spray drift: • check and maintain application rate • avoid spray drift • avoid off target application • exclude livestock • erect warning signs • inform neighbours Check and comment on wind speed • use of anemometer at suitable height or visual signs • wind direction Reasons for minimising spray drift: • avoidance of contamination to people and the environment, including the aquatic environment

Factors the	(- # (
	t affect spray drift
	ather conditions
	ction of spraying
• noz	zle type and size
• pre	ssure
• wal	king speed
• noz	zle height
• rota	ry atomiser speed
• def	ective equipment
Read product To include	the following:
	duct name
	ve substance(s) (ingredient(s))
information	nformation:
-	of use
	b/target
	kimum individual dose
	kimum total dose
	kimum number of treatments
_	e the following:
	cific product precautions/warnings
-	rator protection
3.1 • env	ironmental protection
	rictions on use
3.2 Crop speci	fic information:
• cro	o/target
• dos	e rate
• wat	er volume
• tim	ng
Mixing and	spraying:
• fillir	
	uced volume applications (if applicable)
	ommended nozzles
	ommended pressure
	ay quality
·	itional label information
	npatibility
	•
Carry out pre use To include checks to the	
oprovor/opplicator	ayer/applicator de-pressurised
Sprayer/ap	plicator components to be inspected for
	ty and contamination that may include:
• tan	(
• IIa	
• filte	
• hos	es
• cor	nections
• sea	ls

		and off anatural
		on/off control
		• lance
		• straps
		pump, visual assessment only
		batteries (if applicable)
		engine (if applicable)
		Part fill applicator and check for satisfactory operation:
		 sprayer/applicator checked for leaks under pressure
		 any problems identified to be rectified if within operators' level of responsibility and ability
		 condition confirmed as suitable for operation
	Identify suitable	Identify and explain the use of nozzles:
	operating pressure and select nozzles	deflector - medium/coarse spray quality. Generally used to apply herbicides
	according to application	 air inclusion - medium/coarse spray quality. Good drift reduction properties
	requirements	 full cone - medium/coarse spray quality. Suitable for spot treatment and spraying around obstacles
4.2		 fan nozzle - fine, medium or coarse spray quality. General purpose
		Fit the required nozzle and select pressure
		suitable nozzle selected
		nozzle fitted correctly
		correct pressure selected
		Check nozzle condition and spray pattern:
		nozzle undamaged
		correct spray pattern for nozzle
	Calibrate the	Calibration to include:
	sprayer/applicator and	calculation of water volume rate
	record relevant data	check water volume rate against product
		information recommendations
4.3		Calibration data may include:
		applicator used
		walking speed
		 nozzle(s) fitted (swath width if appropriate)
		pressure setting
	Measure the area to	To include:
4.4	be treated	accurate measurement of dimensions
4.5	Calculate the area to	To include:
4.5	be treated	accurate calculation of area
	Calculate the	To include:
4.6	quantities of pesticide	 amount of water required for specified area
4.6	and water required, if applicable	 amount of pesticide required for specified area
	appiicavi c	 amount of pesticide required for full tank

	Magazira tha na sudina d	To include:
	Measure the required quantities and add to	To include:
	the applicator, or attach pesticide	 correct selection and use of PPE (as required by the product label and/or COSHH Assessment)
	container	observance of pesticide manufacturer's
	osmanio.	instructions for mixing sequence and agitation (or other recommended method)
5.1		suitable site selected
		clean water supply
		accurate measurement of water
		accurate measurement of pesticide
		avoidance of spillage
		or
		attach a pesticide container
	Demonstrate safe and	To include:
	accurate application	bankside safety implemented
	procedures	treatment area clearly identified
		walking speed maintained
		accurate switching on/off points
5.2		accurate matching of boutsobstacles dealt with correctly (if applicable)
		 obstacles dealt with correctly (if applicable) area treated minimising overlaps and misses
		awareness of changing weather conditions
		and appropriate action taken (if applicable)
		avoidance of off target application/contamination
		To be should
	Carry out all activities	To include: • prevention of personal injury and contamination
	protecting human health and the	through correct selection and use of PPE (as
	environment	required by the product information, COSHH and
		Risk Assessment)
5.3		prevention of public/bystander contamination
3.3		safe filling procedure
		avoidance of spray drift
		avoidance of off target application/contamination
		 avoidance of overdosing/under dosing crop/target/plant material
		minimising the impact on the aquatic environment
	Complete a treatment	Completion of the treatment record must be:
5.4	record	accurate
		legible (if handwritten)
	Explain how to	Surplus concentrate pesticide:
	manage surplus	return to temporary mobile store return to fixed store
	pesticide and dispose of waste material	return to fixed store Containers:
	OI WASIE IIIAIEIIAI	triple rinsed
		secure storage until disposal
6.1		returned to supplier
		collected by a licensed waste disposal contractor
		Packaging:
		thoroughly emptied
		placed in secure storage until disposal
		collected by a licensed waste disposal contractor

		 Surplus dilute pesticide: back on to site as long as it is below the maximum dose rate use on another approved crop/target treated by specialist treatment facility on site (e.g. a lined bio bed) collected by a licensed waste disposal contractor
6.2	Explain how to clean and decontaminate the sprayer/applicator	May include: select and use appropriate PPE appropriate site thorough washing with water and suitable cleaning agent (if recommended/required) internal and external surfaces care to ensure contamination 'hot spots' are clean thorough flushing of system safe disposal of contaminated washings when cleaning should take place safe procedures followed
6.3	Describe the storage requirements for the sprayer/applicator	May include: ensure the applicator is clean and dry inspect for wear and damage replace any worn or damaged parts frost protection measures implemented lubricate as required store undercover and out of direct sunlight store in a secure area

Unit 267 Operating pedestrian handheld applicators to apply pesticide pellets or granules to land

	tivity number and	Assessment criteria
descr	Outline the legal requirements relating to applying pesticide pellets/granules using	May include: • all required guards are in place and equipment complies with legal requirements • comply with The Plant Protection Products
	pedestrian handheld applicators	 (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012 the operator must hold the appropriate certification for the equipment they are using
1.2	Describe how to apply pesticide pellets/granules using pedestrian handheld applicators following industry best practice	 May include: comply with Pesticide Codes of Practice adopt industry best practice be aware of any safety implications imposed by Risk/COSHH Assessment and comply with the requirements Overall treatment includes: consistent walking speed accurate switching on/off points matching of bouts avoidance of off target application Spot treatment includes: maintaining a suitable applicator height avoidance of under/overdosing avoidance of off target application
2.1	Identify risks to the environment	 May include the following: ground conditions water courses drains boreholes environmental margins/strips/areas wildlife non-target plants sensitive crops/areas hedgerows housing public access other risks particular to the site
2.2	Explain how to minimize risks to the environment	 Explanation may include the following points: check and maintain application rate avoid off target application observe buffer zones inform neighbours erect warning signs

		 use an appropriate pesticide (minimal environmental impact)
		 appropriate timing of application
		Reasons for minimising off target application:
		avoidance of contamination to people and the environment
		Check and comment on wind speed:
		use of an anemometer at suitable height or visual
		signs
		 wind direction
		Factors that affect uniformity of spread:
		 weather conditions
		 direction of spreading
		 pellet/granule density and size
		applicator height
		applicator set level
		defective equipment
Re	ead product	To include the following:
	formation	Product name
In	terpret product	active substance(s) (ingredient(s))
in	formation	Important information:
		field of use
		crop/target
		maximum individual dose
		maximum total dose
0.4		maximum total dose maximum number of treatments
3.1		May include the following:
3.2		specific product precautions/warnings
		 operator protection
		·
		environmental protectionrestrictions on use
		Crop specific information:
		• •
		crop/targetdose rate
		• timing
		additional label information
	arry out pre-use necks to the	Applicator components to be inspected for
	oplicator	serviceability and contamination that may include:
up up	-Foato.	• hopper
		• lid
4.1		agitator
		metering device
		 spinning disc condition
	I I	,
		on/off control
		 on/off control straps or harness (if applicable) wheels and tyres (if applicable)

	Identify settings and adjustments	May include:
	aujustments	height adjustment
4.2		spread width adjustment
		disc speed adjustment
		metering device
	Calibrate the applicator	Calibration may include:
	and record relevant data	calculation of walking speed
	uata	measure spread width
		calculate application rate
		 check rate against product information recommendations
4.3		Calibration data may include:
		walking speed
		applicator used
		height setting
		spread width
		metering device setting
		pellet/granule used
4.4	Measure the area to be	To include:
4.4	treated	 accurate measurement of dimensions
4.5	Calculate the area to	To include:
4.5	be treated	accurate calculation of area
4.0	Calculate the quantities of pesticide required	To include:
4.6		amount of pesticide required for specified area
	Measure/weigh the	To include all of the following:
	required quantities and	 correct selection and use of PPE/RPE (as
	add to the applicator	required by the product label, COSHH and Risk
		Assessment)
5.1		suitable site selected
		 add product following product recommendations and approved procedures
		accurate measurement of pesticide product
		accurate measurement of pesticide product avoidance of spillage
	Demonstrate safe and	To include:
	accurate application	treatment area clearly identified
	procedures	walking speed maintained
		accurate switching on/off points
		accurate matching of bouts
5.2		obstacles dealt with correctly (if applicable)
		area treated minimising overlaps and misses
		awareness of changing weather conditions and
		appropriate action taken (if applicable)
		avoidance of off target application/contamination
	Carry out all activities	To include:
5.3	protecting human	prevention of personal injury and contamination
		through correct selection and use of PPE/RPE

	health and the environment	 (as required by the product information, COSHH/Risk Assessment) prevention of public/bystander contamination safe filling procedure avoidance of off target application avoidance of overdosing/under dosing crop/target/plant material
5.4	Complete a treatment record	Completion of the treatment record must be:
6.1	State how to recover and store surplus pellets/granules and how to dispose of waste material	Surplus pesticide pellets/granules
6.2	Explain how to clean and decontaminate the applicator	 May include: select and use correct PPE selection of an appropriate site for cleaning the applicator clean the applicator following product information and manufacturer's recommendations safe disposal of contaminated waste in an appropriate manner following good practice safe procedures followed
6.3	Describe the storage requirements for the applicator	May include: ensure the applicator is clean inspect for wear or damage replace any worn or damaged parts lubricate if required store in a secure area store under cover and out of direct sunlight

Unit 268 Operating pedestrian handheld applicators to apply pesticide pellets or granules to or near water

Activity number and description from check lis	Assessment criteria
Describe the legal requirements relating to applying pesticide pellets/granules to onear water using pedestrian handheld applicators	May include: all required guards are in place and equipment complies with legal requirements comply with The Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012
Describe how to app pesticide pellets/granules to one near water using pedestrian handheld applicators following industry best practice.	comply with Pesticide Codes of Practice adopt industry best practice be aware of any safety implications imposed by Risk/COSHH Assessment and comply with the requirements Overall treatment includes: consistent walking speed accurate switching on/off points matching of bouts avoidance of off target application Spot treatment includes: maintaining a suitable applicator height avoidance of under/overdosing avoidance of off target application The term on or near water may include the following: wet or dry ditches drainage channels streams rivers canals ponds lakes/lochs reservoirs and areas immediately adjacent Operator safety considerations check bank stability before applying availability of a second person on site availability of life ring/rescue devices
2.1 Identify risks to the aquatic environment	May include the following:

	 non-target plants environmental margins/strips/areas hedgerows housing public access sensitive crops/areas water courses boreholes livestock drinking points recreational use of water body/course water extraction points de-oxygenation of water removal of fish cover removal of bankside wildlife habitat removal of bankside vegetation leading to bank erosion other risks specific to the site
Explain how to minimise risks to the environment	Explanation may include the following points: work in an upstream direction check weather suitability before treatment check downstream uses before treatment seek Environmental Agency approval use of an appropriate pesticide (minimal environmental impact) appropriate timing of treatment check and maintain application rate avoid off-target application exclude livestock erect warning signs inform neighbours Reasons for minimising off target application: avoidance of contamination to people and the environment Check and comment on wind speed: use of an anemometer at suitable height or visual signs wind direction Factors that affect uniformity of spread: weather conditions direction of spreading pellet/granule density and size applicator height applicator set level defective equipment
Read product information	Important information: • field of use (aquatic approval)
	minimise risks to the environment Read product

	Interpret product	townst
	Interpret product information	• target
	Illioilliation	maximum individual dose
		maximum total dose
		maximum number of treatments
		May include the following:
		specific product precautions/warnings
		operator protection
		environmental protection
		restrictions on use
		Crop specific information:
		target
		dose rate
		• timing
		additional label information
	Carry out pre use checks to the	Applicator components to be inspected for service ability and contamination that may include:
	applicator	hopper
		• lid
		agitator
4.1		metering device
		spinning disc condition
		on/off control
		straps or harness (if applicable)
		wheels and tyres (if applicable)
	Identify settings and	May include:
	adjustments	height adjustment
4.2	,	spread width adjustment
4.2		
		disc speed adjustment matering devices
		metering device
	Calibrate the applicator and record relevant	Calibration may include:
	and record relevant data	measure spread width
		calculate application rate
		check rate against product information
		recommendations
4.3		Calibration data may include:
		walking speed
		applicator used
		height setting
		spread width
		metering device setting
		pellet/granule used
4.4	Measure the area to be	To include:
	treated	accurate measurement of dimensions
4.5	Calculate the area to	To include:
	be treated	accurate calculation of area

	Calculate the quantities	To include:
4.6	of pesticide required	amount of pesticide required for specified area
5.1	Measure/weigh the required quantities and add to the applicator	To include all of the following:
5.2	Demonstrate safe and accurate application procedures	To include: bankside safety implemented treatment area clearly identified walking speed maintained accurate switching on/off point obstacles dealt with correctly (if applicable) all of specified area treated awareness of changing weather conditions and appropriate action taken (if applicable) avoidance of off target application/contamination
5.3	Carry out all activities protecting human health and the environment	 To include: prevention of personal injury and contamination through correct selection and use of PPE/RPE (as required by the product information, COSHH/Risk Assessment) prevention of public/bystander contamination safe filling procedure avoidance of off target application avoidance of overdosing/under dosing crop/target/plant material minimising the impact on the aquatic environment
5.4	Complete a treatment record	Completion of the treatment record must be:
6.1	State how to recover and store surplus pellets/granules and how to dispose of waste material	Surplus pesticide pellets/granules:
6.2	Explain how to clean and decontaminate the applicator	May include: select and use correct PPE/RPE selection of an appropriate site for cleaning the applicator

		 clean the applicator following product information and manufacturer recommendations safe disposal of contaminated waste in an appropriate manner following good practice safe procedures followed
6.3	Describe the storage requirements for the applicator	 ensure the applicator is clean inspect for wear or damage repair or notify supervisor if not within operators' level of responsibility and ability lubricate if required store in a secure area store under cover and out of direct sunlight

Unit 269 Installing pesticide plugs in tree stumps

Activi	ty number and	Assessment criteria
	tion from check	
	list	
	Describe the	May include:
	legislative and safety	 all required guards are in place and equipment complies with legal requirements
	regulations relating to	comply with The Plant Protection Products
1.1	pesticide plug	(Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012
	installation	 the operator must hold the appropriate certification for the equipment they are using
		Both required:
		ensure the pesticide has aquatic approval
		seek environmental agency approval
	Describe how to	May include:
	install pesticide	comply with Pesticide Codes of Practice
	plugs safely	adopt industry best practice
	following industry best practice	 be aware of any safety implications imposed by Risk/COSHH Assessment and comply with the requirements
		The term on or near water may include the following:
		wet or dry ditches
		drainage channels
		streams
1.2		• rivers
		• canals
		• ponds
		lakes/lochs
		reservoirs
		and areas immediately adjacent
		On or near water safety considerations
		check bank stability before applying
		availability of a second person on site
		availability of life ring/rescue devices
	Identify risks to	May include:
	the environment from installing pesticide plugs	water courses
		Tree Preservation Orders
	promotes prage	conservation areas
		wildlife
2.1		non-target species
		leaving hazardous standing dead wood
		housing
		public access Dialog to a supplier access
		Risks to aquatic environment:
		livestock drinking points
		recreational use of water body/course

		water extraction points
		de-oxygenation of water
		removal of fish cover
		removal of hankside wildlife habitat
		removal of bankside wildlife habitat removal of bankside vegetation leading to bank erosion
		other risks specific to the site
	Explain how to minimize risks	May include:
	to the environment	 permission sought from appropriate regulatory body (if required)
	CHVIIOIIIICII	use an appropriate pesticide
		careful timing of application
2.2		check and maintain application rate
		work in an upstream direction
		check weather suitability before treatment
		check downstream uses before treatment
		seek environmental agency approval
		exclude livestock
	Read product	The following to be tested:
	information	product name
	Interpret	active substance(s) (ingredient(s))
	product information	Important information:
	illioittiation	field of use
		crop/situation
		maximum individual dose
2.4		maximum total dose
3.1		May include the following:
3.2		specific product precautions/warnings
3.2		operator protection
		environmental protection
		restrictions on use
		Crop specific information:
		target
		dose rate
		• timing
		additional label information
	Carry out pre	May include:
	use checks to	all required guards are in place and in good condition as
	the application	stated in the operator's manual (if applicable)
	equipment	battery sufficiently charged (if applicable)
		adequate fuel (if applicable)
4.1		air filter clean and in good condition (if applicable)
		cooling fins clean/vents clean and clear (if applicable)
		drill bit securely fitted in chuck
		depth gauge secure and set correctly
		hammer head securely fitted to shaft (if applicable)
		any other checks specific to the equipment used

	Measure the	To include:
	diameter of the	accurate measurement
4.2	tree or stump to	accurate measurement accurate calculation (if required)
	be treated	accurate calculation (il required)
4.3	Calculate the	To include:
7.5	number of plugs	accurate calculations
	Demonstrate	To include:
	safe and	correct selection and use of PPE (as required by the
5.1	accurate installation	product label, COSHH/Risk Assessment)
5.1	procedures	plugs installed at correct spacing
	F	plugs installed into the correct part of the stump/tree
		plugs installed to the correct depth
	Carry out all	To include:
	activities protecting	 prevention of personal injury and contamination through correct selection and use of PPE (as required by the
	human health	product information, COSHH/Risk Assessment)
5.2	and the	prevention of public/bystander contamination
	environment	safe installation procedure
		avoidance of non-target species application
		avoidance of overdosing/under dosing
	Complete a	Completion of the treatment record must be:
5.3	treatment	accurate
	record	legible (if handwritten)
	State how to	Explanation may include:
	deal with	careful return to packaging
	unused pesticide plugs	return to temporary mobile store
6.1	and packaging	return to fixed store
		packaging thoroughly emptied
		placed in secure storage until disposal
	<u> </u>	collected by licence waste disposal contractor
	State how to clean	May include: • select and use correct PPE
	application	select and use correct FFE selection of an appropriate site for cleaning the
	equipment	applicator
6.2		clean the applicator following product information and
0.2		manufacturer's recommendations
		safe disposal of contaminated waste in an appropriate
		manner following good practice
		safe procedures followed
	State how to	May include:
	store	ensure the applicator is clean
6.3	application	inspect for wear or damage
	equipment	replace any worn or damaged parts
		lubricate if required
		store in a secure area

Unit 270 Operating handheld pesticide injection equipment

	vity number and iption from check	Assessment criteria
uesei	list	
1.1	Describe the legal requirements relating to applying pesticides using injection equipment	 May include: comply with The Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012 the operator must hold the appropriate certification for the equipment they are using Both required: ensure the pesticide has aquatic approval seek environmental agency approval
1.2	Describe how to inject pesticides safely following industry best practice	May include:
2.1	Identify risks to the environment	 availability of life ring/rescue devices May include the following: water courses drains boreholes environmental margins/strips/areas wildlife non-target plants conservation areas leaving hazardous standing dead wood sensitive crops/areas hedgerows housing public access Risks to aquatic environment livestock drinking points

		recreational use of water body/course
		water extraction points do evagenation of water
		de-oxygenation of waterremoval of fish cover
		removal of hankside wildlife habitat
		removal of bankside wildlife flabitat removal of bankside vegetation leading to bank
		erosion
		other risks particular to the site
	Explain how to	May include:
	minimise risks to	suitable mixing/filling site chosen
	the environment	 permission sought from appropriate regulatory body (if
		required)
		use an appropriate pesticide (minimal environmental
		impact)
0.0		careful timing of application abolt and maintain application rate
2.2		check and maintain application rate creat warning signs.
		erect warning signsnotify neighbours before application
		work in an upstream direction
		check weather suitability before treatment
		check downstream uses before treatment
		seek environmental agency approval
		exclude livestock
	Read product	The following to be tested:
	information	product name
	Interpret product	active substance(s) (ingredient(s))
	information	Important information:
		field of use
		target
		maximum individual dosemaximum total dose
		May include the following:
3.1		specific product precautions/warnings
_		operator protection
3.2		environmental protection
		restrictions on use
		Crop specific information:
		target
		dose rate
		dilution rate if applicable
		• timing
		Mixing and spraying: • filling
		additional label information
	Identify and select	May include:
	equipment	long needle for initial treatment or thicker stems
4.1	according to	short needle for repeat treatment or thinner stems
	application	
	requirements	
	Carry out pre use	Applicator components to be inspected for serviceability and
4.2	checks to the	contamination that may include:
7.2	applicator	tank/bottle/container
		• lid

		CI.
		• filters
		• hoses
		• connections
		• seals
		on/off control otropo
		straps To include
		applicator checked for leaks
		any problems identified to be rectified if within
		operators' level of responsibility and ability
		 condition confirmed as suitable for operation
		Fit the required needle for use:
		suitable needle selected
		needle fitted correctly
		needle undamaged
	Calibrate the	Calibration to include:
	applicator	 delivery rate checked against applicator setting and
		required volume
4.3		Calibration data may include:
_ 110		applicator used
		needle fitted
		applicator setting
		pesticide used May include:
	Calculate	May include:
4.4	quantities required	amount of water required for specified targets amount of pasticide required for specified targets
4.4		amount of pesticide required for specified targetsamount of pesticide required for full
		amount of pesticide required for full tank/bottle/container
	Measure the	To include all of the following:
	pesticide, mix with	correct selection and use of PPE (as required by the
	water and fill the	product information and/or COSHH Assessment)
	applicator and/or	suitable site selected
	attach pesticide	observance of pesticide manufacturer's instructions
5.1	container	for mixing
3. 1		correct use of water supply
		accurate measurement of water
		accurate measurement of pesticide
		avoidance of spillage
		attach pesticide container
	Demonstrate safe	attach pesticide container To include:
	and accurate	targets clearly identified
5.2	injection	targets clearly identified targets treated avoiding misses and overdosing
	procedures	awareness of changing weather conditions and
		appropriate action taken (if applicable)
	Carry out all	To include:
	activities protecting	 prevention of personal injury and contamination
	human health and	through correct selection and use of PPE (as required
5.3	the environment	by the product information, COSHH/ Risk
-0.0		Assessment)
		prevention of public/bystander contamination
		safe filling procedure
		avoidance of off target application/contamination

		 avoidance of overdosing/under dosing target/plant material
5.4	Complete a treatment record	Completion of the treatment record must be:
6.1	Explain how to manage surplus pesticide and dispose of waste material	Surplus concentrate pesticide:
6.2	Explain how to clean the injection equipment	 May include: select and use correct PPE selection of an appropriate site for cleaning the applicator triple rinse the applicator following product information recommendations thorough flushing of system safe disposal of contaminated washings in an appropriate manner following good practice safe procedures followed
6.3	Explain how to store the injection equipment	May include: ensure the injection equipment is clean and dry inspect for wear or damage repair or notify supervisor if not within operators level of responsibility and ability lubricate if required needle covered/removed to protect operator store in a secure area store under cover and out of direct sunlight

Unit 271 Operating other Handheld Applicators Requiring Minimal Calibration

۸۵	tivity number and	Assessment criteria
	tivity number and ption from check list	Assessment criteria
1.1	Describe the legal requirements relating to applying pesticides using handheld equipment	 May include: comply with The Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012 the operator must hold the appropriate certification for the equipment they are using Both required: ensure the pesticide has aquatic approval seek environmental agency approval
1.2	Describe how to apply pesticides safely using handheld equipment following industry best practice	May include:
2.1	Identify risks to the environment	May include the following: ground conditions water courses drains boreholes environmental margins/strips/areas wildlife

		non-targets
		sensitive crops/areas
		hedgerows
		housing
		public access
		Risks to the aquatic environment
		livestock drinking points
		 recreational use of water body/course
		water extraction points
		de-oxygenation of water
		removal of fish cover
		removal of bankside wildlife habitat
		removal of bankside vegetation leading to bank
		erosion
		other risks specific to the site
	Explain how to	Explanation to include the following points:
	minimize risks to the	use of an appropriate pesticide (minimal
	environment	environmental impact)
		careful timing of application
		check and maintain application rate
		avoid spray drift
		avoid off target application
		observe buffer zones
		erect warning signs
		notify neighbours before application
		work in an upstream direction
		check weather suitability before treatment
		check downstream uses before treatment
		seek environmental agency approval
		exclude livestock
		Check and comment on wind speed:
0.0		use of anemometer at suitable height or visible
2.2		signs
		wind direction
		Reasons for minimising spray drift:
		avoidance of contamination to people and the
		environment
		Factors that affect spray drift:
		weather conditions
		direction of spraying
		 nozzle type and size (if applicable)
		 pressure (if applicable)
		disc type
		disc speed
		nozzle/disc height
		forward speed
		defective equipment
		Factors affecting off target application
		wick too low
		wick over saturated and dripping
3.1	Read product	To include the following:
J . 1	information	product name
2.0	omadon	active substance(s) (ingredient(s))
3.2		asiro sassianos(s) (mgrodioni(s))

	Interpret product	Important information:
	Interpret product information	field of use
	Illomation	
		crop/target
		maximum individual dose maximum total dose
		maximum total dose
		maximum number of treatments May include the following:
		May include the following:
		specific product precautions/warnings protection
		operator protection opvironmental protection
		environmental protectionrestrictions on use
		Crop specific information:
		crop/target
		dose rate
		water volume
		• timing
		Mixing and spraying:
		• filling
		recommended nozzles
		recommended pressure
		spray quality
		additional label information
		compatibility
	Carry out pre use	May include:
	checks to the	sprayer/applicator de-pressurised
	applicator	Sprayer/applicator components to be inspected for
		serviceability and contamination that may include:
		tank/container
		wick
		• lid
		• filters
		• hoses
		connections
		• seals
4.1		on/off control
		• lance
		• straps
		bristles pump (if accessible)
		pump (if accessible) hatteries (if applicable)
		batteries (if applicable)engine (if applicable)
		Part fill applicator and check for satisfactory operation:
		applicator checked for leaks under pressure
		any problems identified to be rectified if within
		operators' level of responsibility and ability
		condition confirmed as suitable for operation
	Identify any controls	May include:
	or components	• tank
4.2	applicable to the	• pump
	applicator	• on/off
	• •	• filters
		 nozzle(s)/disc(s)/distribution system
		other components/controls specific to the applicator

4.3	Calibrate the applicator and record relevant data	Calibration may include:
4.4	Measure and calculate the area/target to be treated	To include:
4.5	Calculate the quantities of pesticide and water required, if applicable	To include if applicable:
5.1	Measure the required quantities and add to the applicator, or attach pesticide container	To include all of the following:
5.2	Demonstrate safe and accurate application procedures	May include: • treatment area/target clearly identified • walking speed maintained • accurate switch on/off points • accurate matching of bouts • obstacles dealt with correctly (if applicable) • walking direction • area treated minimising overlaps and misses • awareness of changing weather conditions and appropriate action taken (if applicable)
5.3	Carry out all activities protecting human health and the environment	To include: • prevention of personal injury and contamination through correct selection and use of PPE (as required by the product information, COSHH/Risk Assessment) • prevention of public/bystander contamination • safe filling procedure • avoidance of off target application • avoidance of overdosing/under dosing crop/target/plant material

	Complete a treatment	Completion of the treatment record must be:
5.4	record	accurate
		legible (if handwritten)
	Explain how to	Surplus concentrate pesticide:
	manage surplus	 return to temporary mobile store
	pesticide and dispose	return to fixed store
	of waste material	Containers:
		triple rinsed
		placed in secure storage until disposal
		returned to supplier
		collected by licensed waste contractor Packaging:
6.1		Packaging: • thoroughly emptied
0.1		placed in secure storage until disposal
		collected by licensed waste disposal contractor
		Surplus dilute pesticide:
		back on to area/target as long as it is below the
		maximum dose rate
		 use on another approved area/target
		 treated by specialist treatment facility on site (e.g. a
		lined bio bed)
		collected by a licensed waste disposal contractor
	Explain how to clean	May include: • select and use correct PPE
	and decontaminate	
	the applicator	 selection of an appropriate site for cleaning the applicator
6.2		 triple rinse the applicator following product
0.2		information recommendations
		through flushing of system
		safe disposal of contaminated washings in an
		appropriate manner following good practicesafe procedures followed
	Describe the storage	May include:
	Describe the storage requirements for the	de-pressurisation
	applicator	ensure the sprayer/applicator is clean and dry
	11	inspect for wear or damage
6.3		replace any worn or damaged parts
		lubricate if required
		 frost protection measures implemented
		store securely
		store under cover and out of direct sunlight

Appendix 1 Practical table

Unit 265 Operating pedestrian handheld applicators fitted with hydraulic nozzles or rotary atomisers to apply pesticides to land

Activity number and description	Achieved
1.1 Describe the legal requirements relating to applying pesticides using handheld pedestrian equipment	
1.2 Describe how to apply pesticides safely using handheld pedestrian equipment following industry best practice	
2.1 Identify risks to the environment	
2.2 Explain how to minimize risks to the environment	
3.1 Read product information	
3.2 Interpret product information	
4.1 Carry out pre use checks to the sprayer/applicator	
4.2 Identify suitable operating pressure and select nozzles according to application requirements	
4.3 Calibrate the sprayer/applicator and record relevant data	
4.4 Measure the area to be treated	
4.5 Calculate the area to be treated	
4.6 Calculate the quantities of pesticide and water required if applicable	
5.1 Measure the required quantities and add to the sprayer/applicator, or attach pesticide container	
5.2 Demonstrate safe and accurate application procedures	
5.3 Carry out all activities protecting human health and the environment	
5.4 Complete a treatment record	
6.1 Explain how to manage surplus pesticide and dispose of waste material	
6.2 Explain how to clean and decontaminate the sprayer/applicator	
6.3 Describe the storage requirements for the sprayer/applicator	

Unit 266 Operating Pedestrian Handheld Applicators Fitted with Hydraulic Nozzles or Rotary Atomisers to apply Pesticides to or Near Water

Activity number and description	Achieved
1.1 Describe the legal requirements relating to applying pesticides to or near water using handheld pedestrian equipment	
1.2 Describe how to apply pesticides safely to or near water using handheld pedestrian equipment following industry best practice	
2.1 Identify risks to the environment	
2.2 Explain how to minimize risks to the environment	
3.1 Read product information	
3.2 Interpret product information	
4.1 Carry out pre use checks to the sprayer/applicator	
4.2 Identify suitable operating pressure and select nozzles according to application requirements	
4.3 Calibrate the sprayer/applicator and record relevant data	
4.4 Measure the area to be treated	
4.5 Calculate the area to be treated	
4.6 Calculate the quantities of pesticide and water required, if applicable	
5.1 Measure the required quantities and add to the applicator, or attach pesticide container	
5.2 Demonstrate safe and accurate application procedures	
5.3 Carry out all activities protecting human health and the environment	
5.4 Complete a treatment record	
6.1 Explain how to manage surplus pesticide and dispose of waste material	
6.2 Explain how to clean and decontaminate the sprayer/applicator	
6.3 Describe the storage requirements for the sprayer/applicator	

Unit 267 Operating pedestrian handheld applicators to apply pesticide pellets or granules to land

Activity number and description	Achieved
1.1 Outline the legal requirements relating to applying pesticide pellets/granules using pedestrian handheld applicators	
1.2 Describe how to apply pesticide pellets/granules using pedestrian handheld applicators following industry best practice	
2.1 Identify risks to the environment	
2.2 Explain how to minimize risks to the environment	
3.1 Read product information	
3.2 Interpret product information	
4.1 Carry out pre-use checks to the applicator	
4.2 Identify settings and adjustments	
4.3 Calibrate the applicator and record relevant data	
4.4 Measure the area to be treated	
4.5 Calculate the area to be treated	
4.6 Calculate the quantities of pesticide required	
5.1 Measure/weigh the required quantities and add to the applicator	
5.2 Demonstrate safe and accurate application procedures	
5.3 Carry out all activities protecting human health and the environment	
5.4 Complete a treatment record	
6.1 State how to recover and store surplus pellets/granules and how to dispose of waste material	
6.2 Explain how to clean and decontaminate the applicator	
6.3 Describe the storage requirements for the applicator	

Unit 268 Operating pedestrian handheld applicators to apply pesticide pellets or granules to or near water

Activity number and description	Achieved
1.1 Describe the legal requirements relating to applying pesticide pellets/granules to or near water using pedestrian handheld applicators	
1.2 Describe how to apply pesticide pellets/granules to or near water using pedestrian handheld applicators following industry best practice	
2.1 Identify risks to the aquatic environment	
2.2 Explain how to minimise risks to the environment	
3.1 Read product information	
3.2 Interpret product information	
4.1 Carry out pre use checks to the applicator	
4.2 Identify settings and adjustments	
4.3 Calibrate the applicator and record relevant data	
4.4 Measure the area to be treated	
4.5 Calculate the area to be treated	
4.6 Calculate the quantities of pesticide required	
5.1 Measure/weigh the required quantities and add to the applicator	
5.2 Demonstrate safe and accurate application procedures	
5.3 Carry out all activities protecting human health and the environment	
5.4 Complete a treatment record	
6.1 State how to recover and store surplus pellets/granules and how to dispose of waste material	
6.2 Explain how to clean and decontaminate the applicator	
6.3 Describe the storage requirements for the applicator	

Unit 269 Installing pesticide plugs in tree stumps

Activity number and description	Achieved
1.1 Describe the legal requirements relating to installing pesticide plugs	
1.2 Describe how to install pesticide plugs safely following industry best practice	
2.1 Identify risks to the environment from installing pesticide plugs	
2.2 Explain how to minimize risks to the environment	
3.1 Read product information	
3.2 Interpret product information	
4.1 Carry out pre use checks to the application equipment	
4.2 Measure the diameter of the tree or stump to be treated	
4.3 Calculate the number of plugs require	
5.1 Demonstrate safe and accurate installation procedures	
5.2 Carry out all activities protecting human health and the environment	
5.3 Complete a treatment record	
6.1 State how to deal with unused pesticide plugs and packaging	
6.2 State how to clean application equipment	
6.3 State how to store application equipment	

Unit 270 Operating handheld pesticide injection equipment

Activity number and description	Achieved
1.1 Describe the legal requirements relating to applying pesticides using injection equipment	
1.2 Describe how to inject pesticides safely following industry best practice	
2.1 Identify risks to the environment	
2.2 Explain how to minimise risks to the environment	
3.1 Read product information	
3.2 Interpret product information	
4.1 Identify and select equipment according to application requirements	
4.2 Carry out pre use checks to the applicator	
4.3 Calibrate the applicator	
4.4 Calculate quantities required	
5.1 Measure the pesticide, mix with water and fill the applicator and/or attach pesticide container	
5.2 Demonstrate safe and accurate injection procedures	
5.3 Carry out all activities protecting human health and the environment	
5.4 Complete a treatment record	
6.1 Explain how to manage surplus pesticide and dispose of waste material	
6.2 Explain how to clean the injection equipment	
6.3 Explain how to store the injection equipment	

Unit 271 Operating handheld applicators requiring minimal calibration

Activity number and description	Achieved
1.1 Describe the legal requirements relating to applying pesticides using handheld equipment	
1.2 Describe how to apply pesticides safely using handheld equipment following industry best practice	
2.1 Identify risks to the environment	
2.2 Explain how to minimize risks to the environment	
3.1 Read product information	
3.2 Interpret product information	
4.1 Carry out pre use checks to the applicator	
4.2 Identify any controls or components applicable to the applicator	
4.3 Calibrate the applicator and record relevant data	
4.4 Measure and calculate the area/target to be treated	
4.5 Calculate the quantities of pesticide and water required, if applicable	
5.1 Measure the required quantities and add to the applicator, or attach pesticide container	
5.2 Demonstrate safe and accurate application procedures	
5.3 Carry out all activities protecting human health and the environment	
5.4 Complete a treatment record	
6.1 Explain how to manage surplus pesticide and dispose of waste material	
6.2 Explain how to clean and decontaminate the applicator	
6.3 Describe the storage requirements for the applicator	-

Appendix 2 Sources of general information

The following documents contain essential information for centres delivering City & Guilds qualifications. They should be referred to in conjunction with this handbook. To download the documents and to find other useful documents, go to www.cityandguilds.com or click on the links below:

- Centre handbook: quality assurance standards
- •
- This document is for all approved centres and provides guidance to support their delivery of our qualifications. It includes information on:
 - centre quality assurance criteria and monitoring activities
 - administration and assessment systems
 - centre-facing support teams at City & Guilds/ILM
 - centre quality assurance roles and responsibilities.

The Centre Handbook should be used to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the centre contract.

Centre assessment: quality assurance standards

This document sets out the minimum common quality assurance requirements for our regulated and non-regulated qualifications that feature centre-assessed components. Specific guidance will also be included in relevant qualification handbooks and/or assessment documentation.

It incorporates our expectations for centre internal quality assurance and the external quality assurance methods we use to ensure that assessment standards are met and upheld. It also details the range of sanctions that may be put in place when centres do not comply with our requirements or actions that will be taken to align centre marking/assessment to required standards. Additionally, it provides detailed guidance on the secure and valid administration of centre assessments.

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Access arrangements: When and how applications need to be made to City & Guilds provides full details of the arrangements that may be made to facilitate access to assessments and qualifications for candidates who are eligible for adjustments in assessment.

The Centre document library also contains useful information on such things as:

- conducting examinations
- registering learners
- appeals and malpractice.

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Useful contacts

• Please visit the Contact us section of the City & Guilds website, Contact us

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