

November 2017 Proposal to develop a new apprenticeship standard

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Q1. Please confirm that you have read the "How to" guide for Trailblazers on gov.uk (see link here), that you are content that this proposal meets all the criteria for final approval set out within it and that you have discussed the proposal with a relevant Route Relationship Manager within the Institute (Please specify who).

I have read the 'how to' guide for Trailblazers on gov.uk? Yes we have

Name of my Relationship Manager Bhavena Patel

Q2. Name of proposed trailblazer group

Environmental Health

Q3. Are you an existing Trailblazer Group already with approval to develop other standard(s)? If yes or partly, please provide full details.

No, this will be a new group

Q4. Name of proposed apprenticeship standard(s).

Environmental Health Practitioner

Q5. Is this a proposed core and options standard? If yes, please give the titles for each of the options.

No

Q6. How many standards are you proposing to develop? Please be aware that commitment from at least 10 employer members for each proposed standard is required.

One

Q7. Will there be a requirement for additional new standards to be developed in the future? If so, please provide brief details of what these will be.

No

Q8. Have you submitted a proposal for an apprenticeship standard in this role(s) before? If yes, please give details below including comments from the (pre April 2017) DfE approvals panel or the Institute.

No

Q9. Please insert details about each proposed standard below.

	Name of occupation	Proposed level of the standard	Proposed as a degree apprenticeship?	Intended to replace/partly replace an existing apprenticeship Framework? [if so please give details]	Do you expect any age restrictions to apply to this standard?	Estimated annual take-up across entire relevant sector(s) (This is separate to the number of apprentices that each individual employer group member will take on)	When do you estimate this apprenticeship would be ready to deliver starts?
1	Environmental Health Practitioner	6	Yes	No	No	200	January 2019
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Q10. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/apprenticeship-standards-in-development> Please provide any relevant information below regarding potential overlap with other Trailblazer standards published or in development. It is important that you review your proposal against all other apprenticeships published and in development to confirm there is no significant overlap, in overall occupation or in the content of potential skills/knowledge /behaviours. Where there is potential of any overlap, we ask that you contact the existing Trailblazer(s) before submitting a new proposal to discuss whether the existing standards would cover your needs (or email apprenticeship.trailblazers@education.gov.uk). Please then provide below full details of any possible overlap identified, interaction with relevant Trailblazers, and any relevant further detail explaining why this occupational role is sufficiently unique to still justify separate apprenticeship standard. The existing list of standards in development, is here [The list of existing published standards and Trailblazer contact details, is here](#)

Environmental Health Practitioners complete a level 6 Bachelor's degree in Environmental Health that has been approved by the Chartered Institute for Environmental Health (CIEH). Completion of the degree will enable the apprentice to apply to become a member of the CIEH. With evidence of continuing development and experience gained over a period of five years since completion of the degree, the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health will allow qualified Environmental Health Practitioners to apply for Chartered Status.

We have reviewed this proposal against other standards that are being proposed, published or in development, including Public Health Practitioner, Regulatory Compliance Officer, Regulatory Scientist, Compliance/Risk Officer and Senior compliance/Risk Officer and confirm that there is no significant overlap. Regulatory Scientist is a science specific occupation working to develop new tools, standards and approaches to assess the safety, efficacy, quality and performance of regulated products.

Compliance/Risk Officer and Senior compliance/Risk Officer are occupations that are specific to the finance sector. We have paid particular attention to the Regulatory Compliance Officer standard, Public Health Practitioner proposal and the Safety, Health and Environmental Technician standard and confirm that the requirements of the Environmental Health Practitioner are significantly different. A comparison is presented in the appended document (Appendix 1).

Q11. Please provide a full description below of what the occupational role involved (or roles in the case of a proposed core and options standard). The information you provide here is crucial to our assessment of whether the occupational role is suitable for an apprenticeship, so please be as comprehensive as possible, and always refer to the criteria and guidance set out in the "How to" guide for Trailblazers. In particular, the information should include: Main duties and responsibilities - please set out clearly what someone in this occupation will actually be doing; the range of environments/sectors/industries in which someone in this occupation could work; a summary of key competencies/skills etc required for full occupational competence; how the occupational role typically fits within the wider work hierarchy; who would they be working with, and what is the usual relationship between the roles.

Main duties and responsibilities:

Environmental Health Practitioners act as advisers, educators, consultants and enforcement officers, ensuring people are able to live, work and play in safe, healthy, hygienic environments. With the emphasis on promoting a safe and healthy environment for the public, they will spend much of their time out in community with businesses and the public and may have to work evenings and weekends to meet the job needs. They might specialise in one of the following areas, or deal with them all:

- environmental protection
- food safety
- health and safety at work
- housing standards
- noise control
- pollution control
- waste management

Day-to-day duties can include:

- advising employers and other stakeholders on a range of environmental health matters eg, food safety, contaminated land, light pollution, infection control measures, water quality, housing standards
- promoting health and wellbeing by advising and giving educational talks to community groups and businesses on issues such as health and safety at work
- inspecting, auditing and other interventions for businesses to reduce risks relating to, eg health and safety at work, food safety, food hygiene and food standards, pollution and housing standards
- following up complaints and leading investigations into outbreaks of food poisoning, infectious disease or pests eg, salmonella, wasps, rat or mice infestations
- following up complaints and leading investigations into statutory nuisances eg. Noise, light pollution, air pollution, premises
- collecting samples for laboratory testing
- protecting the public from environmental hazards eg. Assessing planning applications and suggesting relevant controls
- enforcing environmental health regulations eg. serving legal notice on a business to improve future safety standards, prosecuting a landlord for poor housing
- investigating accidents at work
- assessing and granting relevant licences and registrations eg, alcohol licences, temporary event licences, tattooists/ear piercing
- writing records and reports and giving evidence in court
- monitoring and testing in a range of settings for environmental pollutants
- surveying dwellings to ensure fitness for occupation
- assessing criteria for granting licences in housing
- collaboration with partner agencies including the police and government organisations

Employment opportunities:

Environmental Health Practitioners work in the public, private and third-party sectors. The majority will be employed in the following types of organisations: The NHS, armed services, local government, central government agencies (for example the Food Standards Agency, Environment Agency or Health & Safety Executive) but some will also work in consultancies, commercial businesses, not for profit businesses and charities. They will work in a range of departments in which they will apply their knowledge and skills on for example animal welfare, housing, licensing, environmental protection, food safety or pest control.

Environmental Health Practitioners will normally work as part of a wider team including Health and Safety Advisors, Environmental Health Technicians, Compliance Officers and Chartered Environmental Health Practitioners. They may supervise the work of others in the team in relation to their technical area of expertise. With evidence of continuing development and experience gained over five years since qualification as an Environmental Health Practitioner, The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health will allow qualified Environmental Health Practitioners to gain Chartered Status. We are aware that CIEH are intending to review membership categories in 2018.

Q12. Please provide an overview of the knowledge, skills and behaviours required for these roles.

On completion of the apprenticeship, the Environmental Health Practitioner will be able to:

- Initiate, plan and lead promotional campaigns in high priority environmental health areas eg. Recycling of waste, food safety
- Provide expert specialist and professional advice and guidance to all clients including residents, consumers, traders and businesses on specialist area of environmental health matters eg, noise, pest control, food safety, pollution reduction
- Carry out inspections, audits and other forms of intervention in a range of premises across environmental health and/or licensing functions
- Grant relevant licences eg, alcohol, temporary events
- Support clients to comply with environmental health legislation eg. Health and Safety at Work Act, Housing Act, Environmental Protection Act
- Negotiate with and influence clients and other stakeholders on environmental health activities eg. Waste reduction, air pollution
- Identify and assess environmental health risks, and communicate risk management solutions to clients and other stakeholders
- Identify and investigate complaints as they relate to environmental issues in accordance with legislation, guidance and national standards
- Interpret and apply legislation including the Environmental Protection Act, the Health and Safety at Work Act, Environmental Health Act, Building Act, Food Hygiene Regulations, Housing Act and other appropriate legislation within the remit of the environmental health services in a practical manner
- Apply a range of analytical and problem-solving techniques to resolve environmental health issues in a variety of manners, particularly through innovative or informal measures eg. Voluntary agreement, penalties, benefits to encourage good practice for the environment
- Undertake research and critically evaluate and analyse evidence eg. For emissions controls
- Make judgements and decisions based on the evidence available and applied knowledge eg. On acceptable levels of emissions, water test data, acceptable levels of noise
- Undertake objective measurement and analysis of scientific information to determine the appropriate corrective action eg. Noise maps
- Undertake enforcement activity including the drafting and service of Statutory Notices
- Produce reports and where appropriate recommend prosecution, prepare evidence and give evidence in Court
- Deal with difficult and confrontational situations

The Environmental Health Practitioner will know and understand:

- the environment in which the organisation operates
- a broad range of environmental health legislation including the Environmental Protection Act, the Health and Safety at Work Act, Public Health Acts, Building Act, Food Hygiene Regulations, Housing Acts and other appropriate legislation within the remit of the Environmental Health Services
- the role of the environmental health service in contributing to a wide public health agenda and the health of local communities
- the procedures and practices involved with carrying out inspections
- the procedures and practices involved with taking enforcement action under environmental health law
- the procedures and practices involved with granting licences
- how to liaise and communicate with the media
- complex/scientific reports and validation data

Behaviours:

The Environmental Health Practitioner will be innovative, highly flexible, assertive, adaptable, reliable and consistent. They will show discretion, resilience and self-awareness. They will have the courage to challenge areas of concern and strive to work to best practice. They will have excellent communication skills and be adept at negotiating and influencing clients and other stakeholders. They must be highly motivated, show respect for those they work with and be committed to their continued professional development.

Q13. How will the apprenticeship allow the individual to develop transferable skills to perform the role in a business of any size or relevant sector?

During the apprenticeship, employers will ensure that the Environmental Health Practitioner apprentice is given sufficient range of opportunity and quality of experience to ensure that they develop all the knowledge, skills and behaviours defined by the degree apprenticeship standard. They will be job-ready on completion of the degree apprenticeship.

Successful completion of the degree apprenticeship will allow the apprentice to apply for membership of the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health. They may then work towards Chartered Status.

Q14. Will the occupation require rigorous and substantial training of at least 12 months prior to the end-point assessment to achieve full competence, with off-the-job training accounting for at least 20% of the apprenticeship? Please provide detail of what this will include.

Yes.

Apprentice Environmental Health Practitioners will be required to undertake a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Health with their work based learning and on completion, this will enable them to apply for membership of the Chartered Institute for Environmental Health. The Apprenticeship will typically take 4 years to achieve.

Approximately 80% of the apprentice's contracted hours will be spent developing their skills and applying the behaviours and knowledge in the workplace. The remaining 20% will be spent off the job acquiring the underpinning knowledge which they will need to apply in the workplace. This will equate to 4 days in the workplace and 1 day in university although delivery models will be determined through negotiation between the employer and provider.

To ensure that Environmental Health Practitioner apprentices achieve competence across the full range of knowledge, skills and behaviours and are completely job ready they may be required to rotate across a range of different work-based contexts, including organisations which may not be their main employer. The employer will decide how the apprentice will develop their skills in the workplace, in collaboration with other organisations or teams.

Q15. What will the duration of the apprenticeship be?

Typically 48 months

Q25. In future, Technical Education will be arranged around the common framework of 15 technical education routes identified in the Sainsbury Review. These encompass all employment-based and college-based activity. The aim of these new routes is to facilitate the progress of young people from compulsory schooling into skilled employment and the highest levels of technical competence. A technical route could be followed either through an apprenticeship or in a college where the training would be supported by a substantial work placement, with both programmes being based on employer-designed occupational standards. In light of this, we have introduced a new criterion requiring any standard approved for development to align with one of the 15 technical routes. Details of the 15 routes can be found on page 22 of the Government Skills Plan here. Please detail which of the 15 Sainsbury Technical Education Routes your standard(s) aligns to. Also, if an occupational map is available for this route, there will be a link to it on the "How to" Guide for Trailblazers webpage. Please refer to this and specify which occupation detailed in the route map your proposed standard covers.

	Proposed Standard (s)
Agriculture, Environmental and Animal Care	-
Business and Administrative	-
Catering and Hospitality	-
Childcare and Education	-
Construction	-
Creative and Design	-
Digital	-
Engineering and Manufacturing	-
Hair and Beauty	-
Health and Science	Environmental Health Practitioner
Legal, Finance and Accounting	-
Protective Services	-
Sales, Marketing and Procurement	-
Social Care	-
Transport and Logistics	-