

NOS Governance Group Position Statement

Pan/Multi Sector NOS

Background

1. Transferability and mobility are becoming increasingly important within the economy, and the evidence base that supports the NOS Strategy shows that high level common skills are wanted by all employers. The NOS Strategy makes a commitment to establish and publish a set of Pan/Multi sector NOS that will contribute towards a transferable approach to skills across the UK and beyond. <https://www.ukstandards.org.uk/NewsUpdates/Documents/NOS%20Strategy%20September%202022.pdf>

Evidence-base for Rationalisation and Cleansing activity

2. In line with its continuous improvement approach, the NOS Governance Group intends to review and rationalise the number of NOS on the database. An evidence-based approach will be taken on whether to retain, replace or remove any duplicate NOS and whether the NOS recommended for retention or replacement require review.

Pan/Multi Sector NOS

3. To date, the following NOS Suites have been identified and work is currently underway:



Further Pan/Multi Sector NOS and individual NOS will be added subject to consultation with relevant partners. We intend to keep all parties updated on progress and next steps.

Quality assurance and approvals

4. On a case-by-case basis, a centrally coordinated data review and analysis activity will take place, to look at the scale of the duplication. SDS will outline a specification and procure contracts to undertake mapping exercises, analysis,

and proposals for the removal of obsolete NOS as well as actions to tackle duplication. This approach will ensure consistency and a level of impartiality.

5. Contract activity will involve consultation with NOS suppliers, qualifications regulators and relevant end users; in some cases, the mapping activities will be complicated and time consuming as the wider impact on Awarding Bodies and their products must be considered.
6. The data identified within each report will determine the best course of action and most appropriate approach for the retention, replacement, or removal, of any duplicate NOS. Duplicate NOS that are identified for removal will be communicated to relevant suppliers and stakeholders in a timely manner.

March 2023