

Level 3 Award in Wastes and Resource Management – VRQ (Vocationally Related Qualification)

What is a VRQ?

VRQs are Vocationally Related Qualifications and are an additional way of demonstrating competence for medium risk waste sites, leading to the issue of an Occupational Competence Certificate.

What is the difference between an NVQ* and a VRQ?

Perhaps the main difference between a waste NVQ and a waste VRQ is the level of research and study involved. An NVQ* is based around “on the job practical assessment”, whilst a VRQ is more academic in approach requiring the completion of written projects and research by the learner.

The VRQ has 6 separate Units, with units 1-5 being mandatory and unit 6 being an optional site specific unit.

Unit 1: Environmental Impact of Waste and Resource Management

Unit 2: Waste and Resource Management- Policy and Legislation

Unit 3: Permitting Requirements and Compliance in the Waste & Resource Management Industry

Unit 4: Health and Safety in the Waste and Resource Management Industry

Unit 5: Technical Aspects of Managing Waste and Resources

Unit 6: Material processing in the Waste and Resource Management Industry.

The optional units consist of:

- Physical & chemical (6a)
- Biological (6b)
- Thermal (6c)
- Land remediation (6d)
- Inert landfill (6e)

How is the VRQ delivered?

The VRQ is delivered via open supported learning. This means that you will be expected to do some of your own learning, in your own time, under instruction from a trainer who will give you direction on the key concepts that you will need to be aware of in order to successfully complete each project (the trainer contact could be either classroom based or via remote/distance learning).

Currently the VRQ is delivered over 4 learning days, where you will have the chance to discuss relevant issues, ask questions and explore, with a group of other learners and your trainer, key topics facing the waste sector. Following each day you will be provided with a selection of resources that will assist you in your research enabling you to successfully complete your projects.

How is the VRQ assessed?

Following each Unit there is a written project to be completed to demonstrate your understanding. This needs to be completed within 6 weeks of the issue date and is assessed on the basis of it being sufficient to address the relevant Assessment Criteria. There is therefore no specific “pass mark”, merely “sufficient” or “not yet sufficient”.

How long will the VRQ take?

The delivery is very flexible, so please contact the Centre to find out the current course dates. If you have a number of candidates, then we would be happy to discuss alternative delivery periods to suit your own needs.

One of the big advantages of the VRQ is that it can be completed in a relatively short space of time when compared with the NVQ*, although this is of course subject to your own workloads.

How much will it cost?

The VRQ is offered as a fixed price of only £1600 (plus VAT) ensuring that there are no hidden surprises.

If you wish to complete more than one optional unit, leading to multiple VRQs, then this can be accommodated for the additional fee of only £395 (plus VAT) per qualification. This includes the registration, marking, moderation and certification of the award.

<p>*following the introduction of the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) WAMITAB qualifications are no longer called NVQs, however this term has been used within this document as it is something you will probably be familiar with. The correct terminology for the qualifications is now an Award, Certificate or Diploma.</p>
