

Vocationally Related Qualifications

1.0 What is a VRQ?

VRQs are Vocationally Related Qualifications and are an additional way of demonstrating competence for medium risk waste sites.

2.0 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 practical assessment, whilst a VRQ is more academic approach requiring the completion of written projects.

The VRQ has 6 separate Units.

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: options include physical & chemical (6a), biological (6b), thermal (6c), remediation (6d) and inert landfill (6e)

3.0 How is the VRQ assessed?

Following each Unit there is a written project to be completed to confirm 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”.

4.0 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.

5.0 How much will it cost?

The VRQ is offered as a fixed price of only £1550 (plus VAT) ensuring that there are no hidden surprises.

*following the introduction of the Qualification Credit Framework (QCF) the qualifications are no longer called NVQs, but 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 either an Award, Certificate or Diploma.