

# OUR GUIDE TO SCHEMES AND PROGRAMMES





## ABOUT ENERGY & UTILITY SKILLS

It is predicted that 221,000 vacancies will need to be filled in the energy and utilities sector over the next 10 years. This is made all the more daunting by the need of the sector to recruit and upskill their workforce.

Energy & Utility Skills brings industry leaders together to identify and address the skills challenges our sector faces.

We provide membership, assurance and skills solutions to help employers attract, develop and retain a sustainable, skilled workforce to ensure the seamless delivery of essential services to 65 million people and UK industry each day.

## OUR SCHEMES AND PROGRAMMES

Our portfolio of schemes and programmes has been developed in collaboration with industry. Most are based on standards we have developed directly with employers, although some are based on other national or qualification standards. Working closely with employers and key stakeholders in our sector ensures our schemes and programmes remain valid and relevant.

Our quality assurance processes ensure that training outcomes are reliable and consistent. Our schemes and programmes support employers in the recruitment and upskilling of their workforce and support workforce mobility and transferability within the sector.

There are four categories of schemes and programmes within our portfolio:

- ▶ Passport Schemes
- ▶ Skills-based Schemes
- ▶ Bespoke Programmes
- ▶ Endorsed Training Programmes

**Successful completion of our schemes and programmes will result in EUSR registration which, depending on the scheme or programme, is valid for three to five years.**

### What is EUSR?

The Energy & Utility Skills Register (EUSR) is the online register of skills, training, qualifications and authorisations for the gas, power, waste management, water and telecommunications industries, operated by Energy & Utility Skills.

It is a register of an individual's training and skills, following attendance on an eligible scheme or programme – which is recorded against their EUSR registration.

Individuals are issued with a unique EUSR ID number, as well as a photo ID card displaying their training or skills recorded. EUSR registration is valid for a fixed period of time, and individuals are required to renew their registrations by undertaking the relevant training before their registration has expired.

# PASSPORT SCHEMES

## Safety, Health and Environmental Awareness (SHEA) Training

Our SHEA schemes cover the essentials of safety, health and environmental awareness; designed for those working across the energy and utilities sector.

The one day programmes are designed for all individuals requiring access to operational sites, including supervisors and managers.

SHEA programmes are available across a wide range of industries and each programme consists of contextualised core learning plus industry specific content, with multiple choice assessment for each module.

Successful completion of a programme results in EUSR registration for SHEA in the relevant industry. Registrations are valid for three years, except for SHEA Gas which is valid for five years.

Completion of a SHEA scheme allows access to CSCS controlled sites for utilities work.



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### Benefits to your business

- ▶ Contextualised content makes it 100% relevant
- ▶ Interactive programmes that cater for different learning styles
- ▶ Accessible and comprehensive approach to assessment
- ▶ Delivered by trainers with experience in the relevant industry
- ▶ Completion of a SHEA scheme allows access to CSCS controlled sites for utilities work

### Core

The SHEA Core scheme consists of six modules that are common to all health and safety contexts. Individuals can take the SHEA Core scheme as a one day programme which consists of:

- Module 1:** Understanding our workplace responsibilities
- Module 2:** Understanding the effects of our work on the working environment
- Module 3:** Identifying and controlling risks
- Module 4:** Common hazards in the workplace
- Module 5:** Occupational health hazards
- Module 6:** Responding to emergencies

### Water

Water industry scheme including additional modules on highway working and excavations, sewerage network and process operations.

### Gas

Developed for the gas industry with specialist modules on highway working and excavations, safety in premises and pressure regulating installations.

### Power

Power industry scheme including additional modules on power industry hazards and power generation and distribution.

### Waste

Developed for the waste management industry, the scheme covers our core modules, contextualised to the industry. There is also an additional module on waste collection.

### Telecommunications

Developed for the telecommunications industry with an additional module on highway working and excavations.

### Cross-Country Pipelines (CCP)

Covers our core modules as well as specialist units on traffic management, welding and non destructive testing and the environment.



## Safe Control of Operations (SCO)

The highest priority for the gas distribution industry is safety; work on gas networks must only be carried out by competent persons adhering to defined industry standards and requirements. Safe Control of Operations (SCO) is for all individuals involved in operational and/or minor works on the gas networks and certain types of meter installation. This includes those who are, or will become, named Competent Persons or Authorising Engineers for both Permits to Work and Forms of Authority and, where appropriate, Routine and/or Non-Routine Operations.

There are five categories of training with each one resulting in an EUSR registration which is valid for five years.

## Basic Electrical Safety Competence for Access, Movement & Egress (BESC:AME)

BESC:AME is intended for all individuals who are required to carry out activities on or near operational plant and equipment in transmission and/or distribution electricity environments. Assessments are available within three electrical transmission and distribution areas: Substations, Underground Cables and Overhead Lines.

The scheme standards cover the basic requirements for safely entering, moving around and exiting work areas; where individuals are required to enter more than one category of the work area they should achieve all the relevant outcomes. (BESC:AME does not cover the knowledge and skills required for carrying out operational activities on the electrical network). EUSR registration is valid for three years.

## National Water Hygiene

The National Water Hygiene scheme is recognised by the UK water industry as playing a vital role in ensuring the protection of public health and promoting safe drinking water practices. It is a criminal offence to supply water unfit for human consumption.

Since the scheme's creation in 2006, water companies across the UK mostly mandate the use of National Water Hygiene for anyone entering a clean water site or engaged in operations on the clean water network, whether in contact with the water or not.

It is increasingly expected that all those handling water for human consumption, including contractors, facilities management organisations, environmental health practitioners, water engineers, plumbers etc. should carry a National Water Hygiene card (also known as a 'Blue Card') to demonstrate knowledge and awareness and their understanding of safe water hygiene practice.

Any person working on a restricted operations area at sites such as service reservoirs, water pumping stations, water treatment works, wells, springs and boreholes or working on the network of water mains and service pipes must be in possession of a National Water Hygiene registration. The same training programme is delivered to both direct employees of water companies and all contractors that work on the restricted operations sites including self-lay organisations working on new developments.

The registration lasts for three years from the date of training and provides on-site evidence that an individual has demonstrated an appropriate level of knowledge and awareness in regard to hygiene issues. It is also a prerequisite for many other industry competence requirements and EUSR registration schemes.

# OUR BEST SELLING SKILLS-BASED SCHEMES

Our Skills-based schemes cover skills in a particular role or area and can be suitable for new employees or existing employees wishing to upskill. The schemes are generally based on standards developed by Energy & Utility Skills in collaboration with employers and stakeholders, or industry or qualification standards.

## Smart Metering Scheme

The Smart Metering registration scheme is for all individuals who carry out meter installations. The National Skills Academy for Power (NSAP) has worked in collaboration with its member employers and major industry stakeholder partners to develop this Skills-based scheme for smart meter installers.

Ofgem and all major energy suppliers support the scheme through the Ofgem-approved Smart Meter Installation Code of Practice (SMICoP).

All individuals (whether existing employees or new entrants) must undertake appropriate training, development and assessment to meet the industry agreed NSAP National Assessment Specification (NAS) for smart metering (electricity and gas) to become a smart metering installer.

Following successful completion of an NSAP approved training programme, by an NSAP approved provider, and submission of scheme evidence requirements, an individual gains an EUSR registration in Smart Metering.

There are five routes to EUSR Smart Metering registration:

- ▶ Smart Metering (Electricity): Single Phase
- ▶ Smart Metering (Electricity): Single Phase off Multi-phase
- ▶ Smart Metering (Electricity): Multi-phase
- ▶ Smart Metering (Gas): Low Pressure
- ▶ Smart Metering (Gas): Medium Pressure

This is a nationally recognised scheme providing reliable and consistent outcomes for individuals, whether for new Smart Metering installers or when existing employees are being upskilled.

## Plant for Utilities Scheme (PLUS)

PLUS is the only training and assessment registration scheme specifically designed for plant equipment operators within our sector. Developed in collaboration with employers and providers, it covers the skills required for the operation of a variety of plant equipment within our sector.

Employers choose PLUS because it is utilities focused, contextualised for our industries and tailored to an employer's requirements - covering a range of plant equipment from the very general through to the most specialist. The scheme is particularly attractive to employers wishing to train employees on their own sites to nationally recognised standards. EUSR registration is valid for three years.

## Utility Excavations Scheme

Developed in collaboration with supply chain organisations in our sector, Utility Excavations provides a consistent approach to knowledge and skills training and assessment across different types of excavations. There are five different categories of industry standards which define knowledge and performance outcomes and each category results in a EUSR registration which is valid for three years.

The five categories of industry standards are:

- 1 Locate Utility Services
- 2 Implement Safe (Digging) Excavating Practices
- 3 Install, Inspect & Remove Timber Support Systems
- 4 Install, Inspect & Remove Steel Support Systems
- 5 Install, Inspect & Remove Proprietary Support Systems

## Other Skills-based schemes

- ▶ Confined Spaces
- ▶ Confined Spaces (Water)
- ▶ Jointing Processes
- ▶ NCO (Gas)
- ▶ NCO (Water)
- ▶ SF6 Gas Handling

For more information contact us on  
0845 077 99 22 | [schemes@euskills.co.uk](mailto:schemes@euskills.co.uk)



## Bespoke Programmes

Sometimes a more bespoke or specific approach to training and skills development or assessment is needed. When this is the case, we work with employers and stakeholders – even a whole industry – to develop a programme that is tailored just for them.

By their very nature bespoke programmes are quite varied. Some will include the development of occupational or industry standards, quality assurance or verification of existing training, expert support on training or assessment development. Or all of these.

Examples of bespoke programmes include: Smart Metering Referencing Scheme, Distribution Operation Management Strategy (DOMS) and the Group Competence Scheme (GCS).

**Completion of bespoke programmes will usually result in an EUSR registration, making it easy for employers to validate that an individual has completed the programme.**

## Endorsed Training Programmes

We know that many organisations have developed and deliver their own high-quality training programmes and getting them endorsed by Energy & Utility Skills is an excellent way of demonstrating a commitment to quality.

To gain endorsement for a training programme it must map to standards – either industry standards or ones the organisation has created. As part of the endorsement process we will review these standards as well as resources, delivery plans and internal quality assurance.

**When a training programme has been endorsed by Energy & Utility Skills you will be able to use our Endorsed Training programme logo.**

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## The Energy & Utility Skills Approved Logos

The Energy & Utility Skills approved logos represent a commitment to quality. When choosing your provider or trainer look out for our logos which confirm that the training provided meets our benchmark of best practice.

