

Professional Standards Register (PSR)

CONFIRMS & IDENTIFIES “COMPETENCIES” FOR
OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENE & RELATED SPECIALISTS (LEV)



WHEN?

COMING SOON!

To be launched Nov/Dec 2023
- the aim of the “**Register of Occupational Hygiene Professionals**” is to promote public trust in and accountability of Occupational Hygiene professionals (incl LEV Specialists).

The PSR will confirm that a person providing the stated services in the Register is Competent to do so.

WHO?

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AUTHORITY

The Register is regulated by the Professional Standards Authority (PSA)

The PSA is an independent organisation, directly accountable to the UK Parliament.

PSA reports to Parliament to assist in monitoring and improving protection of the public.

SPONSOR?

BOHS

In sponsoring this **Professional Standards Register (PSR)** BOHS has liaised with HSE and has also sought clarification and guidance on LEV “competency”.

The PSR is a “voluntary statutory register”. It will list practitioners qualified and competent to practice Occupational Hygiene and related Specialists activities (Incl LEV) in the UK.



PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AUTHORITY (PSA)

Has the statutory authority to:

- Review decisions made by the nine regulators about practitioners' 'fitness to practise'.

PSA Objectives

- To protect the public by delivering highly effective oversight of regulation and registration
- To maintain strong relationships with statutory regulators, organisations with accredited registers and other stakeholders to improve the impact of our work
- To have a skilled, diverse and motivated team who are proud to work at the Authority and are committed to achieving our objectives
- To seek continuous improvement in the way we run the Authority and our value for money for registrants and the public



accredited register

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS REGISTER

OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENISTS & RELATED SPECIALISTS (LEV ETC)

This **Register** is compiled on the basis of the public "need to know" whether a person providing Occupational Hygiene and related Specialist (LEV) services is "Competent" to do so.

It will promote trust in and accountability of the LEV Specialists (and Occupational Hygiene) professions.

The concept and operation of the Register is supported by HSE and other relevant statutory bodies.

The PSR will confirm LEV & Occ Hygiene competence. It will become an essential resource for clients in procuring these services and by HSE when reviewing competencies.

THE PSR & LEV SPECIALISTS

- It is anticipated that HSE will use the PSR on a reference basis when undertaking investigations and interventions.
- HSE were involved with BOHS in guiding both the development of CoC(Control) and this Register - see below “Becoming Listed”
- Clients wishing to engage the services of an Occupational Hygienist/LEV Specialist do not currently have access to a public Statutory Register which lists individuals and confirms their competencies.
- The PSR will provide a public, easy to search, free to access and objective means to determine competencies.
- The PSR will provide a quality-assured and definitive indication of those professionals who are qualified to provide services and advice across a range of Occupational Hygiene Specialisms including LEV.
- It will clearly identify those who are qualified and certified as “Specialists” in a particular field.
- This is a Statutory Register; the PSA reports to Parliament.
- It may become, in time, the LEV equivalent of the GasSafe Register (and viewed as such by HSE and service procurement clients).

BECOMING ‘LISTED’ ON THE PSR

- It is intended that all LEV Specialists holding CoC(Control)/LFOH(S) - and who have maintained their continuing professional development (CPD) whether through BOHS or another professional organisation - will be listed on the Register as qualified LEV Specialists.
- LEV Specialists will almost certainly be the first Specialist Group to be listed 😊
- CoC(Control) is the point where BOHS have stated they can determine definitively that a person is “competent” in the sense of the CoSHH Regs and ACoP and thereby facilitate the entry of their details onto the Register.
- From 2024 it is intended that all LEV Specialists who have embarked on relevant professional training eg the BOHS P600 series of courses will be able to be listed in a section of the Register.

THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS REGISTER & 2024?

- Feedback from BOHS appears to confirm that the Register will continue to be developed and, in particular:-
- To extend its relevance to those working towards CoC(Control) where the Register will accommodate some form of registration for those LEV Specialists with, for example P601, or P602 etc.
- For those who have not yet completed CoC(Control) but have completed other Proficiency Certificates the Register may indicate that these LEV Specialists can offer a “limited” or a defined range of competent LEV services or can offer a broader range of LEV services but under direct/indirect ‘Registered’ supervision, eg by a certified CoC(Control).

BENEFITS OF BEING ON THE REGISTER?

A Professional Standards Register offers several clear benefits for LEV Specialists, including:

- **Transparency:** It provides an independent, transparent and easily accessible record of the qualifications, certifications, competencies and ethical standards upheld by the LEV Specialist.
- **Accountability:** LEV Specialists listed on the Register are held accountable for their actions, as their qualifications and standards are publicly available for scrutiny.
- **Trust and Confidence:** The Register will enhance trust and confidence in the professionalism of an LEV Specialist, as it demonstrates a commitment to maintaining high standards.
- **Quality Assurance:** It promotes and enforces professional standards, ensuring that LEV practitioners meet specific requirements of and commitment to ongoing development.
- **Ethical Oversight:** It allows for monitoring and enforcement of ethical codes of conduct, which can help prevent unethical behaviour and misconduct.
- **Regulatory Compliance:** In some cases, HSE may use the Register as part of an investigation or intervention in determining (in part) the capabilities and scope of competency of an LEV Specialist.
- **Recognition:** Being listed on the Register can be a mark of recognition and prestige, signifying a commitment to high professional standards.