



DSA-QAG Update

News for Assessment Centres and ATS Providers

January 2014

Website Updates

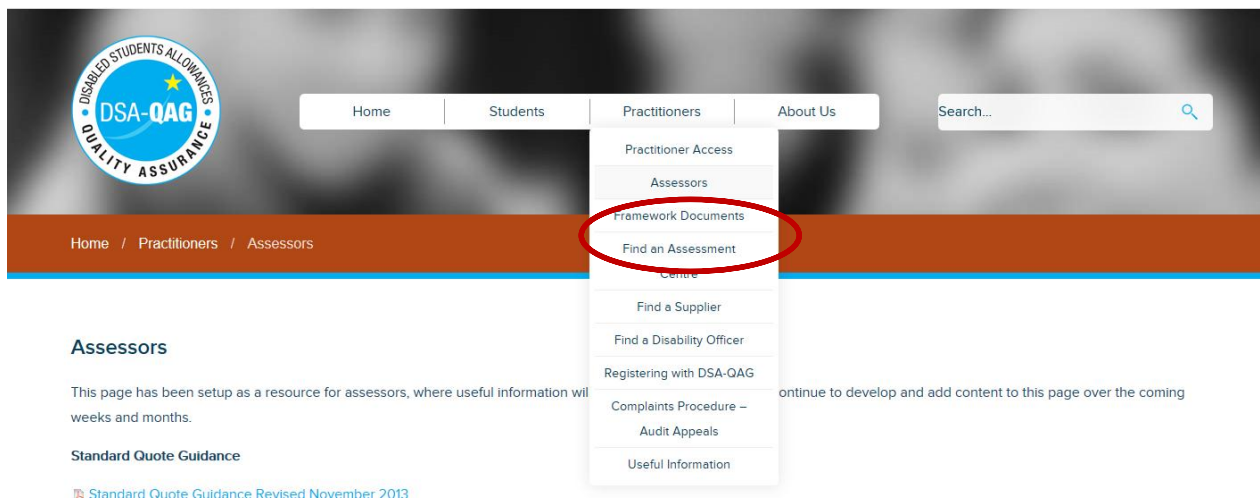
Welsh Language

At the request of the practitioners, we recently added a comprehensive Welsh language option on the DSA-QAG website. This has initially been completed for the 'student' pages and the home page with the intention to introduce the Welsh option in other pages, subject to website traffic statistics.

Assessors Page

In addition, DSA-QAG has introduced a page on the website for assessors. This page has been setup as a resource area for assessors, where useful information will be stored. We have set this area up without a log-in requirement allowing easy for assessors to visit as and when required. This page will continue to be developed over the forthcoming months.

Accessing Assessors Page



Assessors Page Content

Assessors

This page has been setup as a resource for assessors, where useful information will be uploaded. DSA-QAG will continue to develop and add content to this page over the coming weeks and months.

Standard Quote Guidance

[Standard Quote Guidance Revised November 2013](#)

Assessing Students with Mental Health Conditions

[Resource for study needs assessors - mental health conditions \(September 2013\)](#)

SpLD Assessment Standards Committee ADHD Guidance

[SASC ADHD Guidance \(September 2013\)](#)

SpLD Assessment Standards Committee Updated guidance on the assessment of DCD/dyspraxia

[SASC Updated guidance on the assessment of DCD/dyspraxia \(September 2013\)](#)

For more information on SASC, please refer to the website.

SASC Website - <http://www.sasc.org.uk/>

Website Enhancements

It has been a year since the launch of the new DSA QAG website, and as part of our continual website enhancements, we will shortly be contacting practitioners and students to request feedback on the website. This will form the basis of our 2014 website enhancements and development.

Student Comments – statistics to be updated to 10/1/14

As of Friday 17th January, there have been a total of 702 student comments left on the DSA-QAG website. 42 out of 95 practitioners have had comments submitted by students, 23 of which are assessment centres and 14 suppliers. The overall figure is 54% of assessment centres and 70% of ATSPs have had comments submitted. We would like to encourage assessment centres and ATSPs to promote and request students to leave comments on the service(s) received.

Disclosure and Barring Service Checks

As you will be aware, we issued an update on disclosure checks during the summer. The update was following consultation with the Disclosure and Barring service (DBS) and the Ministry of Justice. It was recommended that QAG registered practitioner staff obtain a basic disclosure, with Disclosure Scotland being the recommended provider. The recommendation was due to DBS having completed a review of DBS and roles, and were not in a position to include practitioner roles without going through various governments stages for authorisation.

As QAG has received a few queries on this topic, we decided to include a further clarification in this edition of Update.

For clarification, anyone is eligible to apply for a basic check; you do not need to fit within the current defined job roles. The reason the Ministry of Justice recommended Disclosure Scotland is due to the fact, they provide a basic check services and Disclosure and Barring Service do not.

A basic check covers unspent convictions and costs £25 per check. Please note, Disclosure Scotland carry out basic checks throughout the UK.

AC and ATSP Annual Reports -2013

The assessment centre and ATSP annual audit reports for 2013 have been issued to practitioners, stakeholders and BIS. You can access these reports via the following URL:

<http://www.dsa-qag.org.uk/Members-Log-In/general.html>

Please note, you will need to be logged into the QAG website before clicking on this URL.

Outreach Audits

Following the drafting of an outreach audit tool and sample equipment list, two pilot outreach audits were conducted with two CLASS outreach centres. We'd like to take the opportunity to thank Paul Dilley from CLASS for allowing us to conduct the pilot with him.

Following the two pilot audits, the process was refined, prior to the commencement of outreach audits in October 2013. DSA QAG will be contacting centres to schedule their outreach audits which will be conducted within 4 weeks of the main centre audit.

Congratulation Robyn Mullen – Promotions in 2013

We would like to congratulate Robyn Mullen who was promoted to the position of QA & Audit Officer in 2013.

As many of you will be aware, Robyn has been with DSA-QAG since November 2011, when she joined as an Administration Support Officer. She was promoted in September 2012 to trainee QA & Audit Officer.

The promotion for Robyn came after successfully completing her training for the role.



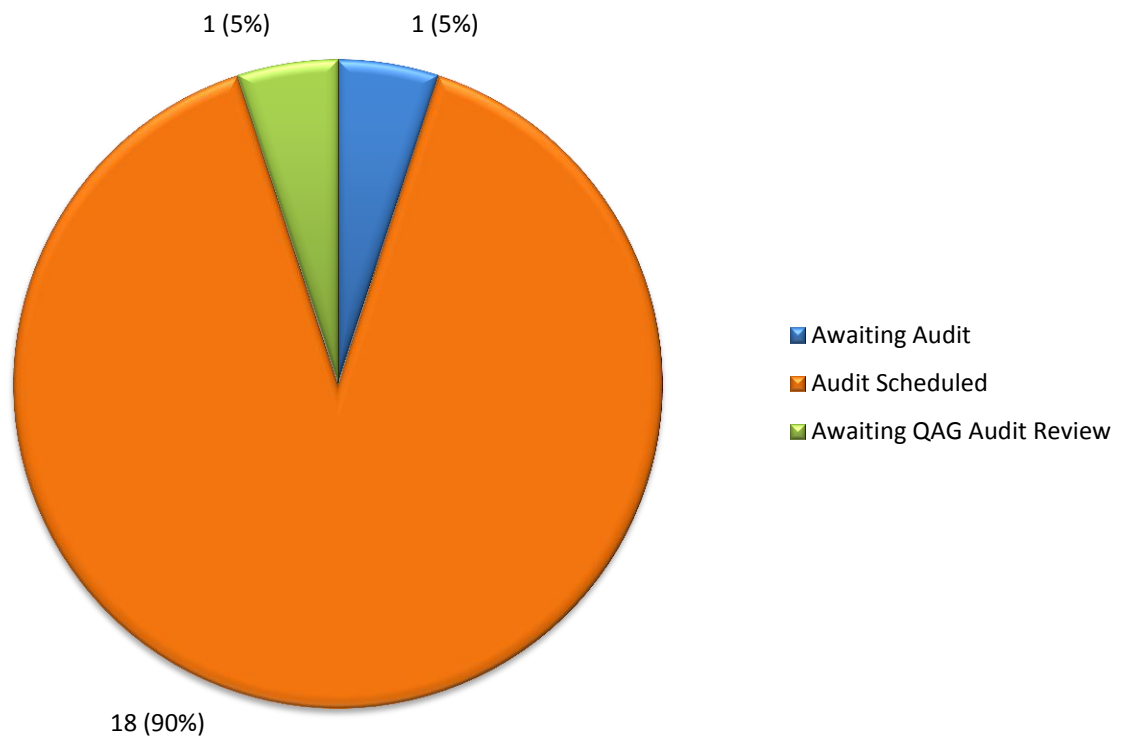
Audit Booking

As many of you will be aware, DSA-QAG has introduced a new audit booking process for the 2013-14 audit cycle. The process has been altered to allow centres and ATSPs the opportunity to provide DSA-QAG with their two preferred audit dates within a set two week period. DSA-QAG will then confirm that BDO resources are available on the requested dates and will confirm the date with each practitioner. We will monitor this process as to how effective the changes have improved the process.

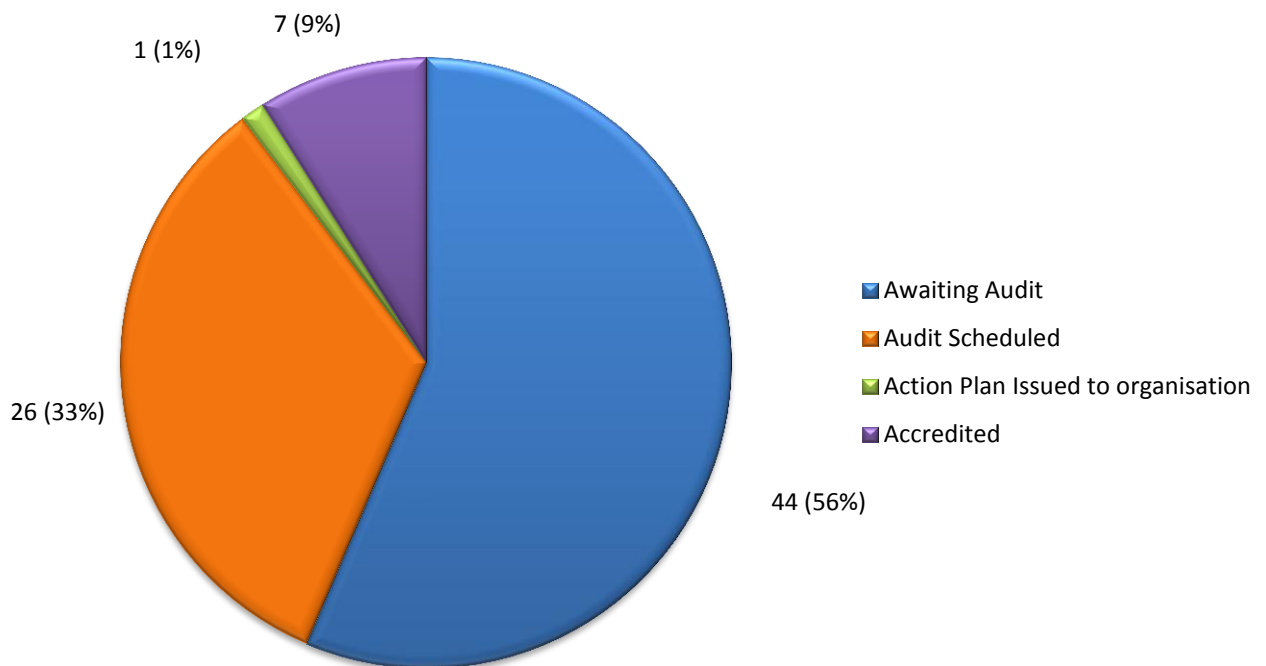
2013/14 Audit Cycle Data - As At 10th January 2014

We would like update practitioners on the progress being made with the 2013/14 audit cycle. To date in the 2013-2014 audit cycle, the following has been completed:

ATSP 2013/14 Audit Cycle



Assessment Centre 2013/14 Audit Cycle



We would like to welcome on-going feedback from practitioners on:

- DSA-QAG Website
- DSA-QAG Portal
- Our service to you



Please contact with any feedback you wish to highlight to us at administration@dsa-qag.org.uk

Useful Contacts

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