



APHA Briefing Note 04/18

EXTENSION TO DEADLINE FOR REVALIDATION OF STATUTORY SURVEILLANCE OCQ (V)

Purpose

1. To notify Official Veterinarians (OVs) with Grandfather right to the Statutory Surveillance (SS) OCQ (V) that an extension has been granted for the revalidation of this qualification and veterinarians now have until **30 April 2018** to revalidate the qualification.
2. SS includes anthrax, brucellosis and sheep scab.

Background

3. OVs are required to be authorised to carry out functions on behalf of the Secretary of State.
4. APHA have introduced the requirement for OVs to revalidate their OCQ (V) qualifications to maintain their authorisation. The objective of this is to provide assurance that OVs are maintaining and continuously improving their competence and applying it to their day-to-day work.
5. In relation to Statutory Surveillance, those that previously held LVI panel rights were given grandfather rights to the OCQ(V) SS – Statutory Surveillance - qualification which relates to endemic diseases other than bTB. These expire on the 31st March 2018. OVs must make sure they have revalidated this qualification in order to maintain their authorisation to carry out this work.
6. APHA have received feedback that the recent adverse weather conditions have had impacts on OV time. In light of this APHA are amending the revalidation process for this group of OVs and give them a further month to complete their revalidation
7. **The amended process for grandfather rights OCQ(V) SS revalidation is:**

- You must enrol on the SS revalidation course by midnight on 31st March 2018.
- Provided you have enrolled by 31st March 2018 you will now have until the 30th April 2018 to complete the revalidation qualification. In the meantime you will still be authorised to continue using the SS qualification.
- If you do not complete revalidation by 30 April 2018 you will no longer be authorised to carry out Statutory Surveillance duties and will need to undergo full retraining if you wish to continue working with this qualification.
- OV's not enrolled on the SS revalidation course with Improve International by 31 March 2018 will have their authorisation to conduct Statutory Surveillance Investigations removed and will receive written notification that they are no longer authorised
- Grandfather rights OV's will not be able to enrol for SS revalidation after 31 March 2018.

Further information

If you have any queries regarding this briefing note please contact the Customer Service Centre One Health OV Team CSCOneHealthOVTeam@apha.gsi.gov.uk.

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