

What are Smart Cards?

Smart Cards are cards that look like the current CPCS cards, but contain a chip. This means that when the card is read by a smart phone or tablet more information can be seen, such as 'Banked' categories, additional qualifications or courses that have been requested to be placed on the card, or other information of use to the individual. It also shows if the card is valid or has been copied. This will help in the cross-industry effort to remove fraud from the Competency Card Schemes.

What functionality will the Centres have?

NOCN are working with IT providers and other organisations to offer CPCS Centres an effective tool to manage their training and test centres. This will be like CPCS On but will have additional functionality. NOCN hope the system will show CITB H&S test information, allow centres to interact more effectively and flexibly with the CPCS Monitors and capture test evidence.

What is a Digital Logbook?

NOCN are currently building functionality to allow users to log their hours on an app, on their phone or tablet device. This is as a result of industry requests. Linked to the Smart Card, this function will allow individuals to easily identify the experience they are gaining during their work. This will facilitate their future card renewal process. The paper-based logbook will still be available for individuals to use if they prefer.

What Scheme Rule changes are you going to make?

NOCN will be running CPCS in support of industry needs. NOCN will therefore be undergoing a managed process of improvements, led by industry consultation and approved by the CPCS Management Committee. The CPCS Management Committee is made up of Plant experienced individuals nominated by industry Federations and Associations. NOCN know there are improvements needed to the Technical Standards, Structure of the Categories, new Categories, rule changes and technical improvements. NOCN intend to have a considered and measured approach to all of these changes but will endeavour to provide timely improvements as quickly as possible.

How will Quality Assurance be managed?

The structure of the CPCS Quality Assurance will be retained, with improvements made to reflect the changes in circumstance. Any changes will only be initiated after consultation with Centres, Colleagues and the Management Committee. NOCN is committed to retaining the highest level of Quality Assurance within the Scheme but we will look to improve technology to provide greater flexibility for centres and to increase the speed of support.

Will my Monitor or Senior Quality Consultant change?

NOCN is retaining all CITB colleagues and will keep them in their current roles to ensure a seamless transition. There may, in the future, be some changes due to geographical requirements or workload etc. but this will be on a case by case basis.

Will CPCS still accept the NVQ Certificates of other Exam Boards?

NOCN has pledged to accept the NVQ Certificates of other Awarding Organisations as long as these are still approved by Regulators, CITB and the other Card Schemes, and meet the quality requirements of the industry.