

SSC RELICENSING PANEL RECOMMENDATION

ASSET SKILLS

1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 1.1 Asset Skills is a company limited by guarantee that was established as a fully licensed Sector Skills Council in 2004. It emerged out of the National Training Organisations for property, housing and cleaning. The SSC is responsible for the sectors of cleaning, facilities management, housing, and property. It has also entered into a “buddying” arrangement for the parking sector through an agreement with the British Parking Association.

Within its sectors, there are 147,300 employers and 892,300 employees. Cleaning is the largest sector accounting for 52 per cent of employers in the Asset Skills footprint followed by housing and property (38 per cent) and facilities management (10 per cent). Most employers are small. 85 per cent of cleaning employees work for employers with ten or fewer employees.

2 PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT AGAINST SSC RELICENSING FRAMEWORK

- 2.1 Overall Rating – **Good**

Key Themes	Does not meet standard	Satisfactory	Good	Outstanding
Well Run SSC			✓	
Core Products and Services			✓	
Sector Specific Solutions			✓	
Results and Impacts		✓		

3 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Relicensing Panel was pleased with many aspects of the SSC’s work and recommend that Asset Skills be relicensed. The SSC was considered to be performing to a good standard in most areas of its work and achieved an overall assessment of ‘**Good**’. In order for the SSC to progress even further, the Panel would like to see greater ambition and drive in relation to its plans for the future.
- 3.2 The Panel identified the SSC as being particularly strong in two key areas:
- The unique approach of using a Call Centre to engage with employers, which enabled the SSC to contact over 100,000 businesses from within its footprint of around 147,000. This resulted in 55,000 employers agreeing to be registered on its database.
 - The use of the ‘Skills Barometer’ survey of 500 companies every 6 months, which provides valuable feedback to the SSC on the issues faced by the industry.
- 3.3 The Panel will be highlighting these areas of good practice with Ministers and would urge the SSC to share them more widely across the SSC network.

- 3.4 The Panel identified a small number of areas for further work. These were:
- The SSC needs to develop processes to evaluate their impact on the sector.
 - There needs to be greater clarity on how the £68m Train to Gain Compact funding will be used.
- 3.5 The Panel endorsed the recommendations for improvement highlighted in the National Audit Office report and have recommended to Government that these should form part of the SSC's continuous improvement plan. The Panel believe that Asset Skills should fall into the low risk band for ongoing performance assessment.