



Level 4 Diploma in Independent Sexual Violence Adviser (ISVA) Practitioner Training

Qualification Number: 603/4968/2





Mission Statement

We recognise achievement and support learning transforming the lives of individuals and communities.

Our Vision

To be the best we can be.

Our Values

- **Integrity** – committed to ethical and sustainable business practices;
- **Clarity** – a clear qualification offer supported by transparent processes;
- **Collaboration** – working with customers and other stakeholders;
- **Aspiration** – supporting individuals to fulfil their potential and progress;
- **Excellence** – committed to high quality;
- **Innovation** – creating opportunities for learners, employers and communities;
- **Inclusion** – celebrating diversity and respecting individuality.

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Qualification summary – key facts

Title:	Open College Network West Midlands Level 4 Diploma in Independent Sexual Violence Adviser (ISVA) Practitioner Training
Qualification Number:	603/4968/2
Level:	4
Credit Value:	37 credits
Guided Learning Hours:	254 hours
Total Qualification Time:	368 hours
Qualification Objective:	<p>This qualification has been designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• accredit individuals who already work as an ISVA in the rape and sexual violence sector;• encourage individuals to engage in learning and develop their knowledge and understanding of the ISVA practitioner role and improve their skills;• consider the effects on wellbeing of those working with sexual violence;• provide support for all adults, children, young people and families affected by sexual violence;• carry out a risk assessment and safety planning when working with survivors of sexual violence;• support survivors of sexual violence through the Criminal Justice System or to seek Civil redress;• present a person-centred approach to supporting all survivors of rape and sexual violence.
Progression Routes:	Successful completion of this diploma will give the learner the opportunity to seek employment as an Independent Sexual Violence Adviser (ISVA) within the rape and sexual abuse sector. It will also provide ISVAs currently working within this sector with recognition as a trained professional.
Entry requirements:	Learners will need to be working with survivors of sexual violence or have experience of supporting vulnerable people who have experienced trauma. The minimum age for access to this qualification is 18 years.
Assessment method(s):	This qualification requires achievement of all specified units

along with a portfolio of evidence to support their learning experience, participation in activities and presentations and written work.

How is the qualification assessed?

The assessment process is as follows:

Internal Assessment by Portfolio of Evidence

Where the assessment method for the qualification is by internally set assessments (Portfolio of Evidence), then centres are free to devise their own assessments for the qualification/unit.

- All assessments should be designed in such a way as to minimise the requirement for Reasonable Adjustments to be made.
- Centre devised assessments must allow learners to meet all of the requirements of the assessment criteria for each unit. Assessments must not require learners to produce evidence above and beyond that stipulated in the Assessment Criteria.
- Centres must then have these assessments approved by their IQA.

When devising assessments, centres may choose from a range of assessment methods but where assessment guidance is provided within a unit this must be adhered to unless otherwise agreed with the External Quality Assurer (EQA).

Assessment methods must be valid, fair, reliable and safe leading to authentic, sufficient and current evidence produced by the candidate.

Holistic assessment is good practice wherever possible and permitted by the assessment strategy for the qualification if this exists.

Further guidance on assessment can be found in the [Centre Handbook](#) and the [Assessment Methods](#) publication. These provide guidance on the range of assessment methods available and the types of evidence appropriate for each.

Other guidance and sample documentation is available to recognised centres covering: planning assessment; recording achievement; planning, carrying out and documenting IQA.

Reasonable Adjustment and Special Considerations

Reasonable adjustments and Special Considerations are available for all assessments, irrespective of whether they are internally or externally set.

Where a learner or group of learners may not be able to access the assessment without Reasonable Adjustments, centres should ensure that they apply in good time for relevant reasonable adjustments to be made, using the Open College Network West Midlands [Reasonable Adjustments and Special Considerations Policy which](#) gives clear guidance on the reasonable adjustments and arrangements that can be made to take account of disability or learning difficulty without compromising the achievement of the assessment criteria.

Standardisation

Standardisation is a process that promotes consistency in the understanding and application of assessment practice. Full details on Open College Network West Midlands standardisation practices can be found in our [Centre Handbook](#).

Outcomes from standardisation events will be disseminated to Centres by Open College Network West Midlands.

Qualification size

About the RQF

The Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) provides a single, simple system for cataloguing all qualifications regulated by Ofqual. Qualifications are indexed by their level and size.

Levels indicate the difficulty and complexity of the knowledge and skills associated with any qualification. There are eight levels supported by three “entry levels”.

Size refers to the estimated total amount of time it could typically take to study and be assessed for a qualification. Size is expressed in term of Total Qualification Time (TQT). The part of the TQT spent being taught or supervised is known as Guided Learning Hours (GLH).

Guided Learning Hours (GLH)

GLH are defined as the time a learner spends being taught or instructed by – or otherwise participating in education or training under the immediate guidance or supervision of – a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training. This includes guidance or supervision time:

- a) With the simultaneous physical presence of the learner and that person, or
- b) Remotely by means of simultaneous electronic communication.

It does not include the number of hours a learner spends in preparation, study or any other form of participation in education or training, including assessment, which takes place as directed by – but not under the immediate guidance or supervision of – a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training.

Total Qualification Time (TQT)

TQT is comprised of the following two elements:

- a) The number of hours which an awarding organisation has assigned to a qualification for Guided Learning, and
- b) An estimate of the number of hours a learner will reasonably be likely to spend in preparation, study or other form of participation in education or training, including assessment, which takes place as directed by – but unlike Guided Learning, not under the immediate guidance or supervision of – a lecturer, supervisor, tutor or other appropriate provider of education or training.

Rules of Combination and level for this qualification

Learners will need to achieve 37 credits.

Mandatory Group M

Title	Level	Credit	GLH	TQT	Unit code	Unit reference number
Assisting Clients to Access Services	4	3	24	28	PS3/4/NQ/004	H/617/7525
Child Protection	4	5	35	50	PR4/4/NQ/006	K/617/7526
Interaction Skills for Independent Sexual Violence Advisers	4	6	44	60	PS2/4/NQ/012	T/617/7528
Legal Processes Related to Rape, Sexual Violence and Childhood Sexual Abuse	4	3	18	30	PS2/4/NQ/009	J/617/7355
Mediation Skills for Independent Sexual Violence Advisers (ISVAs)	4	6	42	55	PS2/4/NQ/010	R/617/7357
Negotiation Skills	4	4	21	40	PS3/4/NQ/002	D/617/7359
Reflecting on Own Practice in Information, Advice and Guidance for Survivors of Sexual Violence	4	4	28	40	PS3/4/NQ/003	Y/617/7361
Understanding Rape, Sexual Violence and Childhood Sexual Abuse	4	6	42	60	PS2/4/NQ/013	A/617/7529

Level Descriptors

Units are assigned a level based on current RQF guidance issued by Ofqual.

Level	Knowledge Descriptor (the holder...)	Skills Descriptor (the holder can...)
Level 4	Has practical, theoretical or technical knowledge and understanding of a subject or field of work to address problems that are well defined but complex and non-routine. Can analyse, interpret and evaluate relevant information and ideas. Is aware of the nature of approximate scope of the area of study or work.	Identify, adapt and use appropriate cognitive and practical skills to inform actions and address problems that are complex and non-routine while normally fairly well-defined. Review the effectiveness and appropriateness of methods, actions and results.

Extracted from 'After the QCF A New Qualification Framework' October 2015

Requirements to deliver the qualification

To offer this qualification, centres must ensure that tutors hold or are working towards:

- A Level 3/above Teaching qualification;
- Experience of managing ISVA practitioner services to men, women and children within the rape and sexual abuse sector;
- Experience of working with Independent Sexual Violence Advisers

Centres must also ensure that they have in place an Internal Quality Assurance person who:

- Holds or is working towards a Level 4 Award in Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practices or its equivalent
- Has substantial experience of working in or assessing qualifications in Sexual Violence and Sexual Abuse
- Is familiar with the assessment requirements of the qualification for which they are the Internal Quality Assurer

To gain approval to offer the qualification centres must submit an [Approval to deliver an Open College Network West Midlands qualification or units e-form](#).

If you are an Open College Network West Midlands Recognised Centre and you wish to add this qualification to your curriculum offer please complete and submit a [New Course Notification Form](#) to your Business Development Manager for approval.

If you are not an Open College Network West Midlands Recognised Centre and you wish to offer the qualification, you will need to apply for Centre Recognition with us. To start the application process please email enquiries@opencollnet.org.uk or telephone 01902 624 239.

For more information visit [Becoming a Centre](#) on our website.

Support for centres

Open College Network West Midlands provide all of our centres with on-going support and advice on the use of Open College Network West Midlands units and qualifications, including the requirements for assessment.

Information about the following can be found in our [Centre Handbook](#):


- obtaining a Unique Learner Number (ULN) on behalf of the learners
- UKPRN (UK Provider Reference Number)

Centre responsibilities

Each centre should identify a centre contact who will be responsible for:

- ensuring that the centre meets all the Open College Network West Midlands requirements for centre recognition and adheres to all [policies and procedures](#).
- Open College Network West Midlands provision within the centre
- ensuring all procedures relating to the delivery of the qualification operate effectively in the centre
- ensuring all relevant Open College Network West Midlands documentation is distributed as required within the centre and that the security requirements for external assessment are adhered to, where applicable.

The information provided in this qualification guide is accurate at the time of publication but is subject to change. Open College Network West Midlands will occasionally update qualification information, so please refer to the 'Open College Network West Midlands Qualifications' page of our website to view any updates, including qualification end dates and the latest versions of our qualification guides.



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