

Bridge Inspector Certification Scheme - Update



Dr Hazel A McDonald – Transport Scotland

Calum Galloway - WSP

Erin Harper - LANTRA

The BICS Scheme (NHSS 31)



- UK Bridges Board & Bridge Owner's Forum
- Supported by DfT
- Inspection quality & career path
- Implemented 6th June 2018 by TS

BICS – Client view



- 4,970 structures
- Investment decisions made from inspection results
- Decision Support Tools rely on quality data
- Budget pressures
- Declining condition

BICS – Client View



- Varied stock & materials
- Data quality
- Confidence in condition

BICS – Client View



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BICS – Client View



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BICS – Client View



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BICS – Client View



Challenges & Benefits

- Bar set high - not all existing inspectors will be able to easily achieve certification however....
 - Scope for 'trainee inspectors' to be used to assist a certified inspector
 - Supplementary and top up training available for any gaps
- Effort required – some inspectors have been certified and more in pipeline.
 - Nothing worthwhile is very easy
- Benefits to Inspectors – a certificate to recognise their experience and expertise.
 - A qualification and more marketable CV
 - Formal career path and recognition of seniority

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Erin Harper
Product Co-ordinator
Bridge Inspector Certification Scheme at Lantra

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Who are LANTRA?

- Awarding Body in the Environmental and Land-based sector
- National Highway Sector Scheme administrator
- Standard setting body for Environmental and Land-based sector
- Charity

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Lantra appointed by the Bridges Board to:

- Provide guidance to would be Bridge Inspectors
- Provide access to the electronic portfolio
- Arrange for portfolios to be reviewed
- Arrange for candidate interviews
- Issue SMART cards
- Organise 10% annual sampling of approved Bridge Inspectors

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BICS Costs

Registration - £50

Assessment Fee - £525

Annual subscription - £150

Time Commitment both from applicants and mentors

Ownership



E-Portfolio



Home / My Portfolio

My Portfolio

Webinar Lantra (102671) - Senior Bridge Inspector

C1 Introduction to Inspections | C2 Structures Types and Elements /Behaviour of Structures | C3 Inspection Process
C4 Defects Description and Causes | C5 Investigation and Testing | C6 Repair Techniques | C7 General Aptitude

Essential Skills	Self Assessment Status	Assessor Endorsement	Endorsed Status	Evidence Uploads
C1.1 Purpose of Inspections				
<i>Demonstrate ability to outline the importance of undertaking inspections</i>	<input type="text" value="Not set"/>	Not set	Unendorsed	
<i>Demonstrate ability to explain the terms "safe for use" and "fit for purpose"</i>	<input type="text" value="Not set"/>	Not set	Unendorsed	
C1.2 Inspector Roles, Responsibilities and Competencies				
<i>Be able to describe the two inspector roles and their associated responsibilities</i>	<input type="text" value="Not set"/>	Not set	Unendorsed	
<i>Demonstrate appropriate level of knowledge of the competencies for the different inspector roles</i>	<input type="text" value="Not set"/>	Not set	Unendorsed	
<i>Be able to explain the certification process</i>	<input type="text" value="Not set"/>	Not set	Unendorsed	
C1.3 Inspection types				
<i>Be able to explain the different inspection types applicable to the relevant industry</i>	<input type="text" value="Not set"/>	Not set	Unendorsed	
<i>Demonstrate the importance of having an appropriate inspection regime</i>	<input type="text" value="Not set"/>	Not set	Unendorsed	
<i>Demonstrate awareness of the range of different Special Inspections, their function and which factors typically initiate their use.</i>	<input type="text" value="Not set"/>	Not set	Unendorsed	
C1.4 Codes of Practice				
<i>Demonstrate appropriate knowledge and use of the relevant structure inspection codes of practice and</i>	<input type="text" value="Not set"/>	Not set	Unendorsed	

E-Portfolio - Submission



1. Candidates compile their E-portfolio.
2. Evidence from own work attached or cross referenced to specific sub-modules.
3. It is recommended that mentor review takes place before submission.
4. Submit completed E-Portfolio to Lantra. An Assessor will be assigned to the E-Portfolio and will provide a recommendation within 14 days.
5. Assessor will then recommend an interview if they are satisfied with the initial written submission.

Interview



- Panel Interview with 2 Assessors, 60 minutes long
- Questions will first target gaps in written submission, then look to verify content
- You may be asked to sketch or explain detail shown in photos





Assessor's View

Calum Galloway

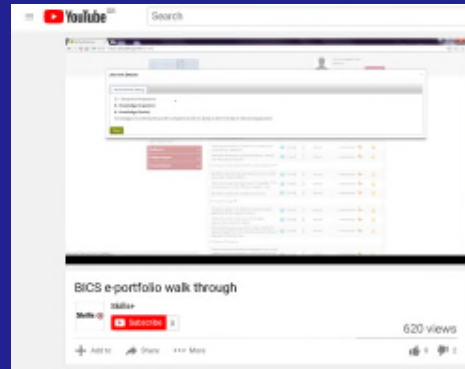


What Assessors are looking for?

- Would you trust this person to carry out inspections of structures
- Do they have the fundamental knowledge
- Have candidates provided sufficient evidence of their experience
- Have they the required experience to make important decisions:
 - Under pressure
 - When they are cold, tired, and hungry
- Do weaknesses exist that could lead to errors of judgement that would be costly in terms of safety or quality of inspection.

E-portfolio

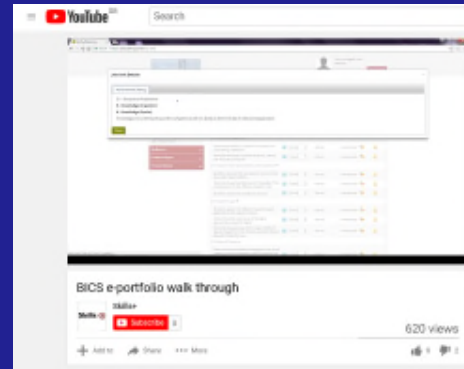
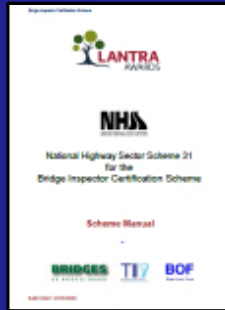
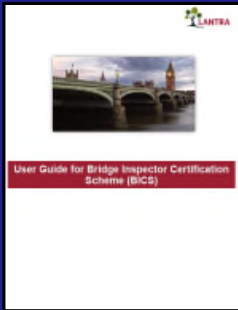
- Before starting carefully review the guidance documents





E-portfolio

- Before starting carefully review the guidance documents



Home / BICS Information

BICS Information

You are logged in as: Calum_Galloway [Sign Out](#)

Home / BICS Information

BICS Information

To submit your e-portfolio please email lauren.quigley@lantra.co.uk with your confirmation. Fees for registrations and submittals can be seen below.

Registration or submittal	Fee
E-portfolio registration and review	£200 +VAT
E-portfolio submittal, Feedback report, Professional Interview with two assessors and registration card (if applicable)	£200 +VAT
Yearly renewal	£150 +VAT

Upcoming Interview Dates 2018

- 16th (Perth office), 20th February
- 7th, 8th, 20th March
- 5th, 18th, 20th April
- 17th, 18th, 31st May
- 6th, 21st, 22nd June
- 12th, 26th, 27th July

[BICS User Guide](#) [Manual](#) [Senior Inspector Interview](#) [Senior Inspector Article](#) [Portfolio Walk through](#) [Webinar Videos](#) [FAQs](#)

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E-Portfolio Review

Evidence

- Linked to the candidate
- Specific
- Relevant
- Credible

Examples:

Photographs, sketches, reports, RAMS, publications, CPD certs, qualifications, lists of structures inspected

DEMONSTRATE

Please! Refer to it in summaries



E-Portfolio Review

Assessors are expected to fail candidates who do not DEMONSTRATE that they fulfil the requirements, at the appropriate standard, for ALL sections and Pass those who do.

As assessors review the e-portfolio they will endorse each attribute at the level they feel has been demonstrated.

A report is also completed stating where they think standards were met and where they weren't and why.

If the e-portfolio is considered adequate they will also draft some suggested interview questions

Successful E-Portfolio Submission



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Do



- ✓ Read and answer the question carefully
- ✓ Answer in your own words
- ✓ Use evidence of your personal experience
- ✓ Get it reviewed by a peer or mentor before submitting
- ✓ Upload the same report several times if necessary for different questions
- ✓ If uploading large reports highlight pertinent sections

Don't



- ✗ Don't cut and paste answers from Wikipedia, the Inspection Manual for Highway Structures or Training Courses
- ✗ Upload Standards and CoP as evidence
- ✗ Upload drawings, reports or documents without evidence you were involved with their preparation
- ✗ Upload irrelevant material
- ✗ Expect the assessor to refer to previous questions



Interview Instructions to Assessors:

- Recognise that candidates will come from a range of backgrounds
 - Starter questions and “funnelling”
 - Use open questions avoiding yes / no answers
 - Use photographs/pencil and paper
- Give the candidate an opportunity to ask any questions at end



The Outcome

Candidates will be notified of their results by Lantra after the interview

If successful you have demonstrated a competence in your field and will be one of a small but growing group of registered bridge inspectors and be at the forefront of improving the standard of Inspections in the UK.



BICS –
We've been listening



E-Portfolio & Interviews

- Feedback review
- Monitoring
- Common issues
 - Assessment consistency
 - E-portfolio issues
 - Evidence

BICS – So what's new?



- E-portfolio revisions Nov 2018
 - Removed duplication
 - Consistency between attribute descriptions and attainment ratings
 - Reviewed some attainment ratings
- Assessor Standardisation event 7th Nov
- Trainee Inspector card

Summary



- BICS is here, we're listening & improving
- Help is out there
- Evidence, evidence, evidence
- E-portfolio changes – less duplication and confusion
- Good luck!

The End



Thank you

Any Questions?