

Tuesday 1 July 2025

Building Safety Questions Now Mandatory In New Version of Common Assessment Standard

Build UK has published an updated version of the Common Assessment Standard, and the Building Safety section must now be completed by all companies that carry out design or building work under the Building Safety Act.

The Common Assessment Standard is the industry-agreed standard for pre-qualification, which is improving quality standards and reducing duplication across construction. The Building Safety section was first introduced a year ago and is now mandatory in the updated Version 5.

Under the Building Safety Act, anyone appointing individuals or organisations to undertake work has a duty to ensure they are competent. Organisations must demonstrate 'organisational capability', and the Common Assessment Standard is being used by a growing list of clients and contractors to demonstrate compliance.

As a result, a number of Build UK members will be specifying that members of their supply chains must have successfully completed the Building Safety section by 1 October 2025.

The Common Assessment Standard is regularly updated to meet industry needs and simplifies the pre-qualification system for businesses across the supply chain. Version 5 also includes updates to the Corporate and Professional Standing; Environmental; and Fairness, Inclusion & Respect (FIR) sections of the question set to reflect new legislation and guidance.

More than 21,000 suppliers have now been certified against the Common Assessment Standard by the seven Recognised Assessment Bodies, and a data sharing agreement means that companies need to obtain certification only once from any of the Recognised Assessment Bodies.

Jo Fautley, Build UK Deputy Chief Executive, said:

"Anyone carrying out work under the Building Safety Act who wants to reduce the bureaucracy of pre-qualification should make sure they have the Common Assessment Standard which is being used across the public and private sectors. If you hold multiple certifications, you should check to see if you have the Common Assessment Standard more than once and why that is."

~ Ends ~

Further Information

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Notes to Editors

1. [Build UK](#) is the leading representative organisation for the UK construction industry. We bring together organisations from across the supply chain to promote the value of construction and drive change that strengthens the sector for the benefit of the industry, its clients and the UK economy.
2. [Version 5](#) of the Common Assessment Standard was published on 1 July 2025, and suppliers will now complete the updated question set when going through the certification process with a Recognised Assessment Body.
3. Completion of the Building Safety section within the Common Assessment Standard was ‘advisory’ rather than mandatory for the first 12 months after its introduction in July 2024 to allow the industry to get up to the speed with the new requirements.
4. Further information about the Common Assessment Standard, including the organisations using it, is available on the [Build UK website](#). [PPN 03/24: Standard Selection Questionnaire \(SQ\)](#) requires contracting authorities to use the Common Assessment Standard when pre-qualifying suppliers for construction works contracts.
5. The Building Safety Act is the foundation of a new [building safety regime](#) for the construction sector. It applies to all companies that carry out design or building work which is regulated under the Building Regulations 2010, including the erection or extension of buildings; renovation, refurbishment or structural alteration of buildings; maintenance of buildings; installation of Safety Critical features on buildings; and the provision or extension of controlled services or fittings in buildings.
6. There are seven Recognised Assessment Bodies which can certify companies to the Common Assessment Standard:
 - a. [Achilles](#)
 - b. [Compliance Chain](#)
 - c. [Constructionline](#)
 - d. [CQMS](#)
 - e. [SCCS](#)
 - f. [Smas Worksafe](#)
 - g. [Veriforce CHAS](#).