

Licence Assessment Consistency

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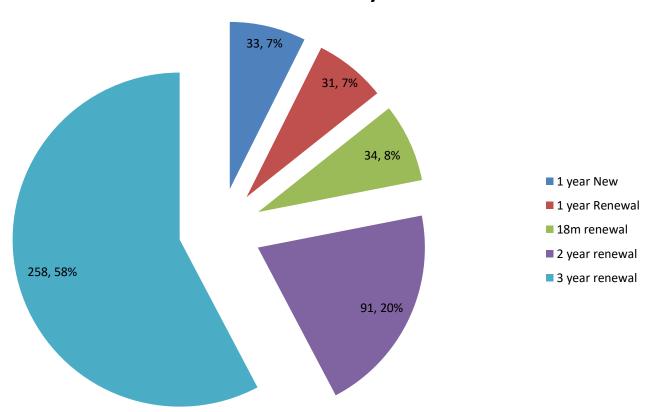


- 18 teams distributed around the country with around 60 B3 licence assessors.
- Some locations recording up to 44
 assessments a year whilst others nationally
 can be as few as 3.
- HSE data highlighted variations in licence term that required further examination.
- Industry raised concerns that licence terms appear to vary depending on location.



Licence Term Variation – Average

Total Asbestos Licences by Term



Work To Date



- Performance summary provided centrally via ALU with prompts for key areas for ALPI to explore.
- Sections on ASB4 broken down into further sub questions.
- More detailed feedback and support to ALPI's against this question set when ASB4 submitted.
- ALPI questionnaire developed and completed by all ALPI's as starting point for peer review discussions.
- ALPI's split into cross-Unit/licence term peer review groups.
- ALU J/V's with assessors.

Initial Findings



- Split in approach between 1 or 3 year term or stepped 1-2-3 years.
- Variation in assessment time those taking longer at assessment also tend to take longer for prep and write up. No clear link between time taken and term.
- Variation in numbers and types of documents reviewed pre assessment.
- Applicants concerns that too specific requirements being imposed in some locations – i.e. required to implement multiple choice questionnaire for all labour selection or a specific format for plans of work.
- Covering areas outlined in the additional ASB4 questions has required some additional resource - impact of this varied depending on the level of detail that was being captured previously.
- Significant increase in 2016 in quantity of evidence and its analysis.
- Personal monitoring, TNA and audit evidence could be expanded in places.
- High level of engagement in the peer review sessions with most reporting that they felt this both useful and worth continuing in some form.
- Conditional refusal can be a powerful tool to drive change where some significant issues remain to be addressed following assessment.



Latest Licence Term Spread

Total Asbestos Licences by Term



- 3 year terms significantly reduced and 1 year and 18 month terms on renewal increased.
- General spread of licence terms now more evenly balanced nationally.

Further Work



Report to Divisional Management Board(DMB) + webinar to assessors will pull together findings and recommendations that may include –

- Continued completion of revised ASB4 evidencing themes sought from questions.
- Continue cross Units peer review through combination of teleconference/ J/V's /swap of ASB4 approvals.
- Regular reports to Heads of Units and DMB on licence term spread nationally.
- Further review of consistency of ASB4 report content and recommendations in due course nationally.