



Assessor Training Funding

The British Blind and Shutter Association helped to develop a NOS and then a VQ with CITB for blind and shutters installers and repairers.

Subsequent to that the BBSA has been seeking suitably qualified and industry experienced professionals to be VQ Assessors.

CITB have kindly assisted with funding for training Assessors and the latest grant payment is for an Assessor based in the north west of England who is the only Assessor in this area.

The take-up of the VQ has been disappointing so far but the recent announcement that renewal of Skilled Worker's cards post-2024 will require the VQ will obviously raise demand.

We have already started to communicate this change to the wider industry (for example this has been featured in our magazine, Openings, which goes to 7,500 companies) to encourage people to plan for the changes that will be coming.

We would not have been able to support the current network of Assessors without the support of CITB and therefore we are grateful for this funding.

According to Experian there are around 16,000 people employed in the blind and shutter industry in the UK and we hope that the availability of a VQ and "local" Assessors will see an increase for the qualification, if not only forced by CSCS card requirements.

BBSA
29 July 2019