



AIMQUALIFICATIONS

Counselling Provider Meeting

11/Feb/2021

Agenda:

- Introduction
- Recap: Extended Extraordinary Regulatory Framework (EERF)
- Adapted log of counselling hours EERF
- Alternative assessment arrangements for summer 2021
- Update: new content on remote/blended practice
- 2021/22 assignments release date
- Plans for the January assessment standardisation: date and content





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Introduction

Nicola Bate – EV Manager

Jessica Beverley – Qualification Development Lead – Counselling

Enquiries@aim-group.org.uk

Etiquette

Mute microphone

Use chat for questions

Opportunity at the end for further questions





Recap: Extended Extraordinary Regulatory Framework (EERF)

- Ofqual's additional framework for qualifications during COVID-19.
- Allows AOs to adapt qualifications and assessments to mitigate disruption to teaching, learning and assessment.
- Current counselling adaptations:
 - Internally marked assessments – feedback from centres: no adaptations made.
 - Externally marked assessments – Jan 21 formal written exams replaced by controlled tasks. Made available 'windows' and remote assessments. L2 and L3 – internally marked. L4 and L5 – remained externally marked.

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Adapted log of counselling hours EERF

Changes to the log

- Due to Covid, most learners are unable to get the 100 required hours through **in the room*** practice, with some having to use other methods, for example video or telephone.
- Worked with other AOs, BACP and NCS – looking at additional ways of assessing that these learners are capable of in the room practice.
- Releasing version 2 log - extra section '**Additional evidence to assess in-the-room competence**'.
- Must be completed for any learners where the opportunity to evidence in-the-room competence has been limited and will be subject to internal and external verification.
- Will be replaced on Portal ('Documents') by start of next week. Centres must use this for any learners not yet claimed, where not 100% in the room.
- ***in the room - where the client and the learner are both physically in the room together. Not face to face on video call.**



Additional evidence to assess "in the room" competence (to be completed by assessor)

This section is to be used to record the arrangements that have been made and completed to ensure learners are competent to work in-the-room with clients. This must be completed for any learners where the opportunity to evidence "in the room" competence has been limited and will be subject to internal and external verification.

Any additional activities to assess learner's competence of in-the-room practice must be logged below.

Details of additional activities*	Date

* Please refer to information provided by professional bodies regarding examples of additional activities.

Assessor declaration

I am satisfied that the activities detailed above confirm the learner's level of competences to work in-the-room with clients as set out by professional bodies and in the qualification handbook.

Assessor

Date

Internal Verifier declaration

I am in agreement with the assessor that the activities detailed above confirm the learner's level of competences to work in-the-room with clients as set out by professional bodies and in the qualification handbook.

Internal

Date

Verifier



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Minimum requirements: what must be included – covering the requirements of:

To provide evidence to support the assessor's decision that the learner has the competencies required for face-to-face counselling

"competent to deliver the services being offered to at least fundamental professional standards or better"

(BACP *Ethical Framework for the Counselling Professions*, Working to professional standards, point 13)

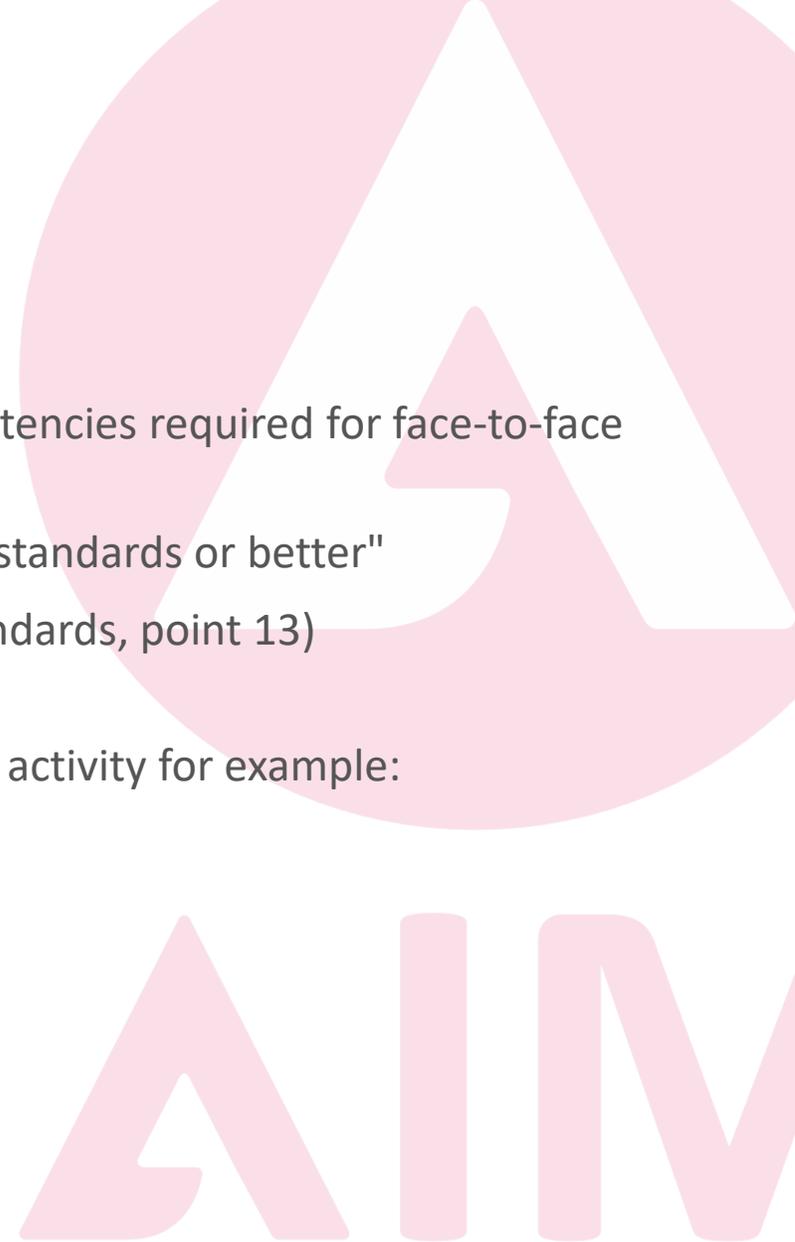
Must complete this section if there is any doubt in the competency of the in the room activity for example:

- limited number of in the room activity
- In the room at the beginning of the log and remote at the end
- Supervisor's report is limited in evidence of in the room competencies

Any other scenarios?

Reporting this information

- Assessor declaration for all
- IV sign off a sample (consider the risk based approach)

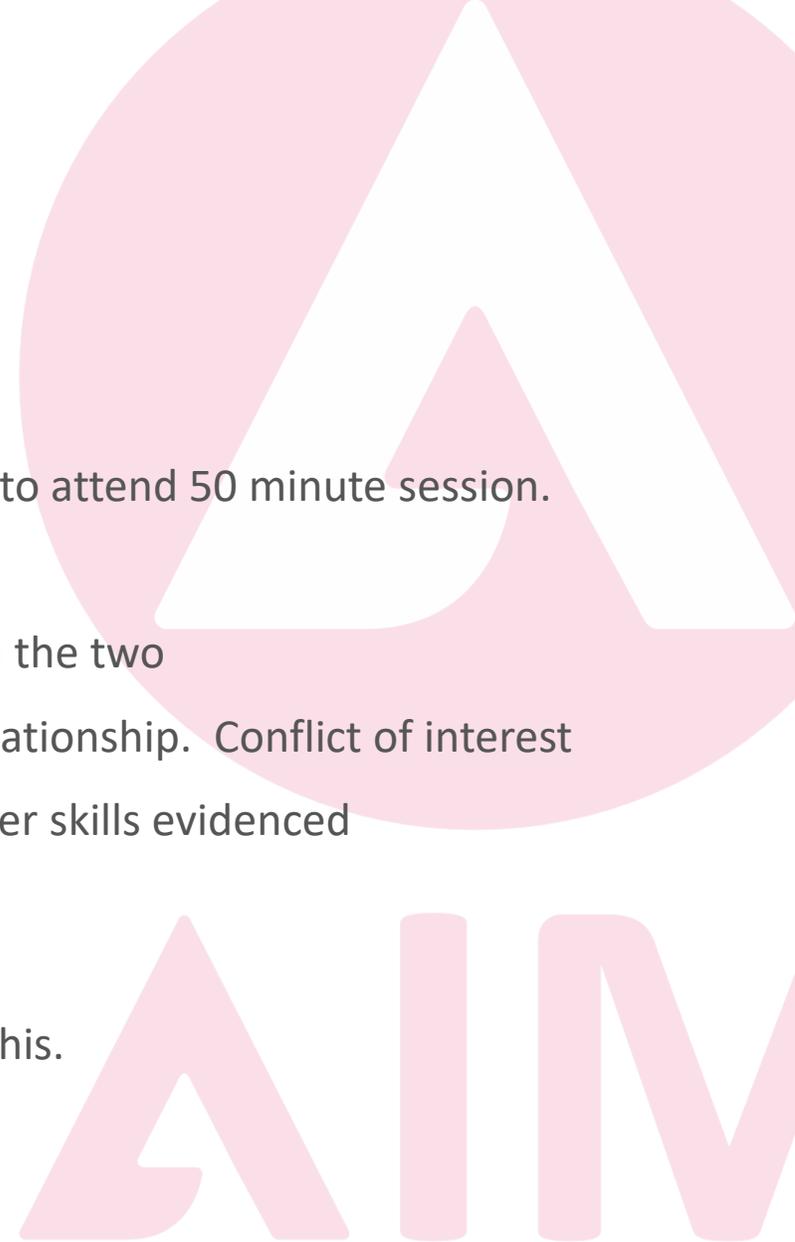




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Examples/potential further adaptations (not exhaustive)

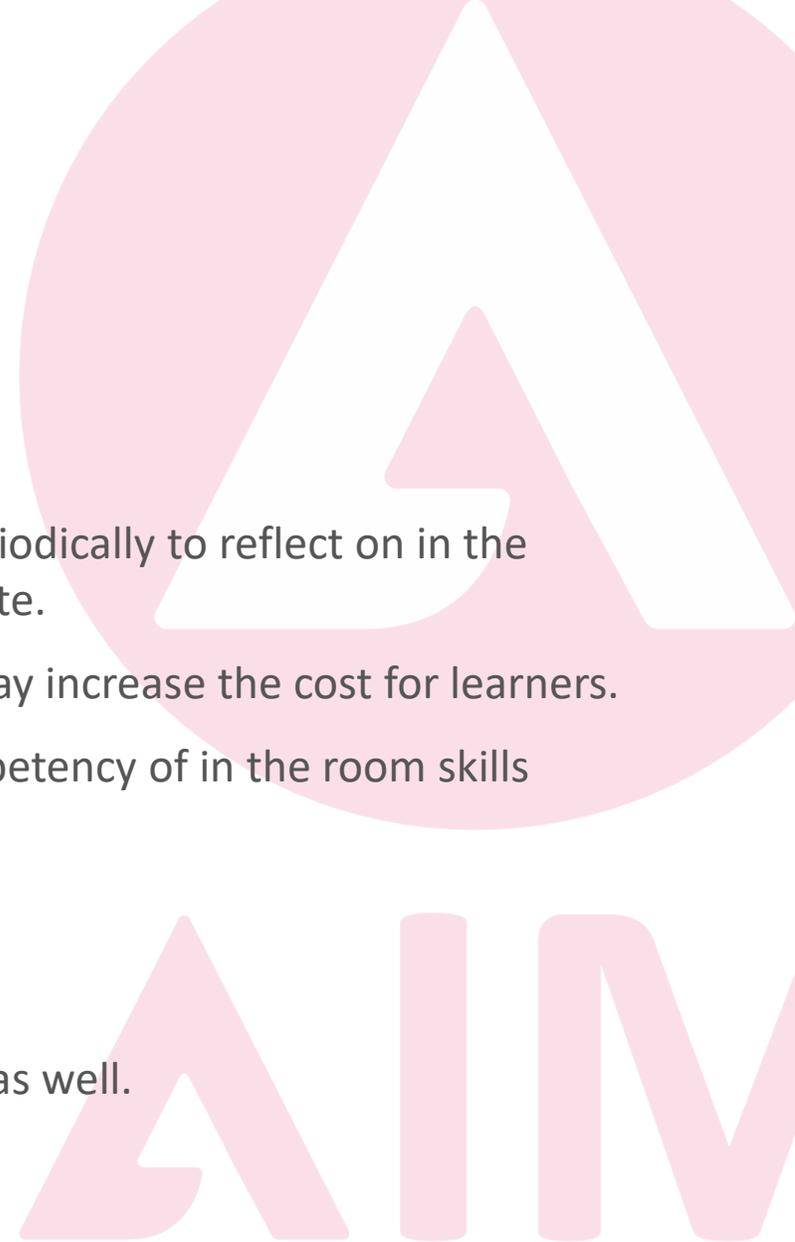
- Peer to peer session
 - Learner from another group - unknown to the learner, is willing and able to attend 50 minute session.
 - Student applied the relevant processes and skills (I.e.....)
 - Reference to lack of COI / explanation of the lack of relationship between the two
 - When is it not appropriate - Friend, someone they know, risk of dual relationship. Conflict of interest
 - Number of these sessions will depends on ratio of f2f v remote and learner skills evidenced
 - Must be in addition to the 100hours
- Fitness to practice report – interim report and final report
 - Consider the theoretical orientation – do they present appropriately for this.





Examples/potential further adaptations (not exhaustive)

- Supervisor's report must reflect the competence
 - 2 reports currently at 50 and 100, would be appropriate to add notes periodically to reflect on in the room competencies (every 10, 20, 25) and only required for mostly remote.
 - More frequent would be to the advantage for future accreditation but may increase the cost for learners.
- Recording of a selection of sessions and be confirmed by the assessor as competency of in the room skills
 - Consider the confidentiality and recording restrictions
- Written reflection at the conclusion of the hours
 - What is the content is wrong and it is at the end of the placements?
 - Reflection allows learners to consider how they would change it
 - Wouldn't expect just a reflection – would anticipate additional evidence as well.
 - Consider a monthly journal to reflect and support their 100 hours





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Claiming 100 hours – window for submission:

Submission deadlines for log of hours:

1. Submission deadline: 28 February 2021, claims awarded: 11 April 2021
2. Submission deadline: 29 June 2021, claims awarded: 12 August 2021 (follows SSP deadline and results release date)

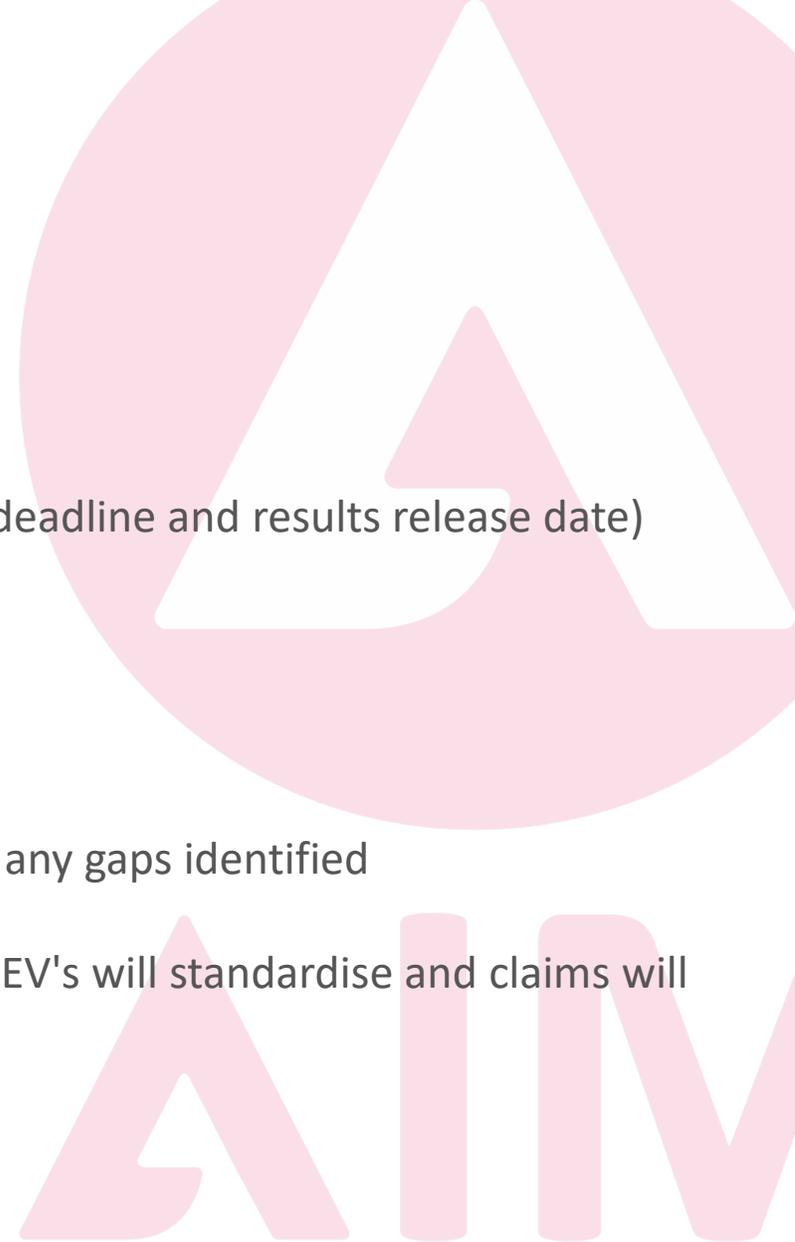
Do we need more submission windows?

Opportunity at interim EV visits to discuss.

- Should have interim scheduled at this point
- Present partially completed logs for review by EV so that they can be recorded and any gaps identified

Centres must submit completed log to enquiries@aim-group.org.uk by deadline date. EV's will standardise and claims will be awarded automatically onto system by dates above.

No longer listed on eRAC to claim at centre.





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Alternative assessment arrangements for summer 2021

What we know so far

- Ofqual/DfE guidance - opportunity for alternative assessment arrangements for L2 and L3 qualifications (controlled tasks)
- Level 4 – not in scope but further adaptations can be made

What we need from you

- How much of the curriculum content do you think you'll have been able to teach?
- Is there any topic area in particular that's been very difficult to teach and therefore not many learners will know/be able to/understand?
- Do you think the majority of learners will be able to be assessed against the standards as they are?

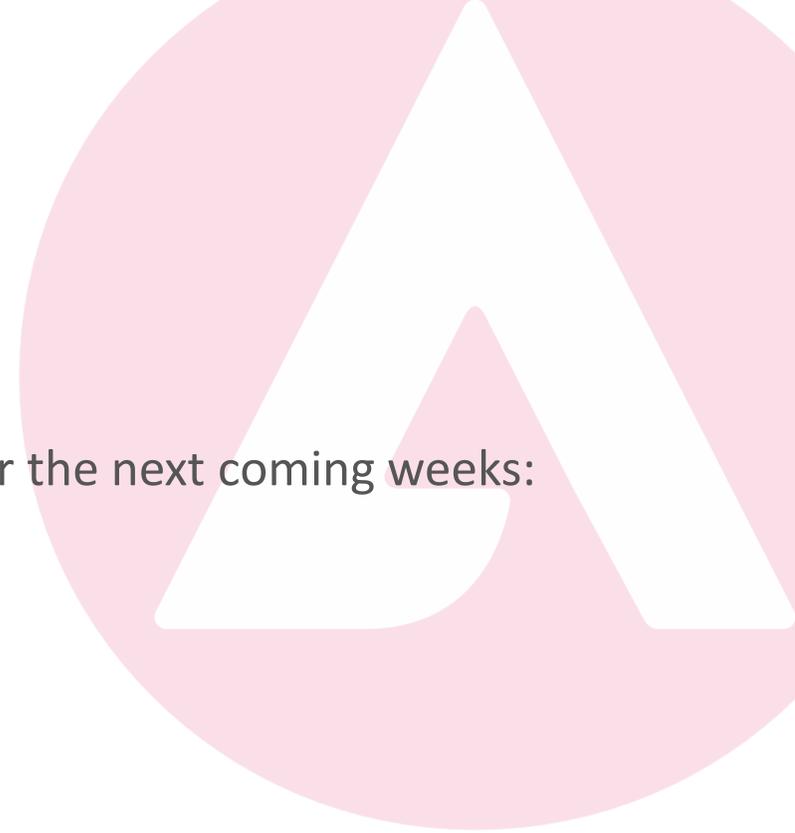


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2021/22 assignments release date

Assessments to be used for 2021/22 will be released to centres via Portal over the next coming weeks:

- New L4 case studies
- Will email counselling contacts once available to download



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Qualifications and Assessment Group