

Rule	Amendment	Purpose
Interpretation		
<p>2. In these Rules: ‘the Act’ means the Children and Social Work Act 2017 ‘adviser’ has the meaning given in regulation 4(2) ‘AMHPs course’ has the meaning given in regulation 2(1) ‘approved course of initial education and training’ has the meaning given in regulation 20(2) ‘approved qualification’ has the meaning given in regulation 20(2) ‘education and training approval scheme’ has the meaning given in regulation 20(1) ‘inspector’ has the meaning given in regulation 21(2) ‘registered social worker’ has the meaning given in regulation 2(5) ‘regulation’ means a regulation in The Social Workers Regulations 2018, and ‘regulations’ shall be interpreted accordingly ‘regulator’ means Social Work England or a person carrying out the functions of the regulator set out in the regulations ‘relevant institutions’ has the meaning given in regulation 20(5), and ‘relevant institution’ is to be construed accordingly ‘Schedule’ means a Schedule of the Regulations ‘Scheme’ means the education and training approval scheme defined in regulation 20</p>	<p>2. In these Rules: ‘the Act’ means the Children and Social Work Act 2017 ‘adviser’ has the meaning given in regulation 4(2) ‘AMHPs course’ has the meaning given in regulation 2(1) ‘approved course of initial education and training’ has the meaning given in regulation 20(2) ‘approved qualification’ has the meaning given in regulation 20(2) ‘education and training approval scheme’ has the meaning given in regulation 20(1) ‘inspector’ has the meaning given in regulation 21(2) ‘registered social worker’ has the meaning given in regulation 2(5) ‘regulation’ means a regulation in The Social Workers Regulations 2018, and ‘regulations’ shall be interpreted accordingly ‘regulator’ means Social Work England or a person carrying out the functions of the regulator set out in the regulations ‘relevant institutions’ has the meaning given in regulation 20(5), and ‘relevant institution’ is to be construed accordingly ‘Schedule’ means a Schedule of the Regulations ‘Scheme’ means the education and training approval scheme defined in regulation 20. ‘Working days’ means any day other than a Saturday, Sunday, a day which is a bank holiday in England, Christmas Day or Good Friday.</p>	<p>To include reference to working days within interpretation of rules.</p>
Approval of courses, qualifications and tests of knowledge		

<p>4. In order to approve courses of initial education and training, qualifications, tests of knowledge of English, BIA and AMHPs courses the regulator will subject relevant institutions concerned with the delivery of such courses, qualifications and tests to an inspection by one or more inspectors in accordance with regulation 21. Such inspections will aim to ensure that all such courses, qualifications and tests of knowledge meet the standards for education and training and professional standards.</p>	<p>4. In order to approve courses of initial education and training, qualifications, tests of knowledge of English, BIA and AMHPs courses the regulator will subject relevant institutions concerned with the delivery of such courses, qualifications and tests to an inspection by one or more inspectors in accordance with regulation 21. Such inspections will aim to ensure that all such courses, qualifications and tests of knowledge meet the standards for education and training and professional standards.</p> <p>(4A) A relevant institution seeking approval for courses of initial education and training, qualifications, tests of knowledge of English, BIA and AMHPs courses must provide, in the form required by the regulator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a request for approval any other information requested by the regulator <p>(4B)As soon as reasonably practicable after receipt of the request under rule 4A, the regulator will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Propose a date for the inspection allocate inspectors and a member of the regulator’s staff to the inspection. undertake a conflict of interest procedure in accordance with rule 11 of The Social Work England (Investigators, Case Examiners, Adjudicators and Inspectors) Rules 2019 	<p>Addition of rules (4A) and (4B)</p> <p>Structure and wording of rule 4 changed to clarify process.</p>
<p>5. (1) Relevant institutions seeking approval to deliver a course of initial education and training, qualifications and tests of knowledge of English,</p>	<p>5. (1) Relevant institutions seeking approval to deliver a course of initial education and training, qualifications and tests of knowledge of English,</p>	<p>Structure and wording of rule 5 changed to clarify process and new rule structure.</p>

<p>must provide, in the form required by the regulator, evidence of how they meet the criteria for approval set out at rule 3(2)(a)-(c).</p>	<p>must provide, in the form required by the regulator, information to show how they meet the criteria for approval set out at rule 3(2)(a)-(c), and any other information requested by the regulator as being relevant to the inspection no less than 40 working days before the date of the inspection.</p>	
<p>5 (2) On receipt of this evidence, the regulator will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) select a date for the inspection; (b) allocate inspectors and a member of the regulator's staff to the inspection; (c) undergo a conflict of interest procedure in accordance with rule 11 of The Social Work England (Investigators, Case Examiners, Adjudicators and Inspectors) Rules 2019; (d) confirm the date of the inspection with the relevant institution seeking approval; and (e) notify the relevant institution seeking approval if any further evidence is required prior to an inspection being undertaken, and request this further information from the relevant institution. 	<p>5 (2) On receipt of the information set out at rules 5(1), 5(3) and 5(4), the regulator will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) determine whether the information provided is sufficient to proceed to inspection; (b) notify the relevant institution seeking approval if any further information is required prior to an inspection being undertaken, and request this further information from the relevant institution. (c) confirm the date of the inspection with the relevant institution seeking approval, or, where further information is required under rule 5(2)(b), the regulator may in its discretion, rearrange the inspection and notify the relevant institution of the revised date. 	<p>Structure and wording of rule 5 changed to clarify process and new rule structure.</p>
<p>(5) On receipt of the information provided under rule 5(1) and no less than 40 working days before the date of the inspection, the regulator will send the information to the inspectors for review.</p>	<p>(5) On receipt of the information provided under rule 5(1), 5(3) and 5(4) above, and any further information provided in response to a request under rule 5(2)(b), and no less than 40 working days before the date of the inspection, the regulator will send the information to the inspectors for review.</p>	<p>Structure and wording of rule 5 changed to clarify process and new rule structure.</p>
<p>(6) On receipt of any information requested under rule 5(2)(e), the regulator will:</p>	<p>Removed</p>	<p>Rule 5(6) removed as information contained elsewhere within rule 5.</p>

<p>(a) confirm the date of the inspection with the relevant institution, or</p> <p>(b) rearrange the inspection and notify the relevant institution of the revised date,</p>		
<p>(7) Following the inspection, the member of the regulator’s staff appointed under rule 5(2)(b) will write a draft inspection report on behalf of the inspectors which will be:</p> <p>(a) agreed by the inspectors within 42 calendar days of the date of the inspection; and</p> <p>(b) sent to the relevant institution concerned within 10 working days of that agreement.</p>	<p>(6) Following the inspection, the member of the regulator’s staff appointed under rule 4B(b) will write a draft inspection report on behalf of the inspectors which will be:</p> <p>(a) agreed by the inspectors within 30 working days of the date of the inspection; and</p> <p>(b) sent to the relevant institution concerned within 10 working days of that agreement.</p>	<p>Rule order moved up following deletion of rule 5(6).</p> <p>Working days used instead of calendar days for consistency.</p>
<p>(8) The relevant institution concerned may provide factual corrections to the draft inspection report to the regulator within 28 calendar days, and these may result in the draft inspection report being amended.</p> <p>(9) The final report will be sent to the relevant institution within 10 working days of any amendments made under rule 5(8), and the relevant institution may provide any observations on the final inspection report for consideration by the regulator within 10 working days of receipt of the report.</p>	<p>(8) Where no factual corrections or observations are provided by the relevant institution, the report will be treated as the final inspection report.</p> <p>(9) Where no factual corrections or observations are provided by the relevant institution, the report will be treated as the final inspection report.</p> <p>(9A) Where the relevant institution proposes factual corrections and/or provides observations, the regulator will provide such suggested factual corrections and/or observations to the inspectors who will consider whether to make any amendments to the report</p> <p>(9B) Where material amendments are made to the report under rule 5(9A), the final report will be sent to the relevant institution within 10 working days, and the relevant institution may provide any observations on the final</p>	<p>(8)-(9) replaced by (8), (9), (9A), (9B).</p> <p>Structure and wording of rule 5 changed to clarify process and new rule structure.</p>

	inspection report for consideration by the regulator within 10 working days of receipt of the report.	
<p>(10) The final inspection report, and any observations provided by the relevant institution at rule 5(9) above, will be considered by the regulator, and:</p> <p>(a) if the relevant institution concerned satisfies the regulator that the course meets the criteria for approval and will enable any person who successfully completes it to meet the professional standards referred to in rule3(2)(b) above, the relevant institution will be granted approval without conditions and the course will be added to the regulator’s list of approved courses in accordance with rule16(3) below; or</p> <p>(b) if the relevant institution concerned satisfies the regulator that the course meets the criteria for approval and will enable the person who successfully completes it to meet the professional standards set out in rule3(2)(b) above with some exceptions in specific areas, the relevant institution concerned will be granted approval with conditions in accordance with rules 12 and 13 below and the course will be added to the regulator’s list of approved courses in accordance with rule16(3) below; or</p> <p>(c) if the relevant institution concerned does not satisfy the regulator that the course meets the criteria for approval and will enable the person who successfully completes it to meet the professional</p>	<p>(10) The final inspection report, and any observations provided by the relevant institution at rule 5(8)(b) or 5(9B) above, will be considered by the regulator, and:</p> <p>(a) if the relevant institution concerned satisfies the regulator that the course meets the criteria for approval and will enable any person who successfully completes it to meet the professional standards referred to in rule3(2)(b) above, the relevant institution will be granted approval without conditions and the course will be added to the regulator’s list of approved courses in accordance with rule16(3) below; or</p> <p>(b) if the relevant institution concerned satisfies the regulator that the course meets the criteria for approval and will enable the person who successfully completes it to meet the professional standards set out in rule3(2)(b) above with some exceptions in specific areas, the relevant institution concerned will be granted approval with conditions in accordance with rules 12 and 13 below and the course will be added to the regulator’s list of approved courses in accordance with rule16(3) below; or</p> <p>(c) if the relevant institution concerned does not satisfy the regulator that the course meets the criteria for approval and will enable the person who successfully completes it</p>	<p>Structure and wording of rule 5 changed to clarify process and new rule structure.</p> <p>Rule 5 (10)(c) now uses the language ‘refused approval’, rather than ‘not granted approval’.</p>

standards, the relevant institution concerned will not be granted approval in accordance with rule 14 below.	to meet the professional standards, the relevant institution concerned will be refused approval in accordance with rule 14 below.	
(11) The regulator will inform the relevant institution concerned of the outcome of the approval process and provide the final inspection report within 10 working days of the date of the consideration by the regulator.	(11) The regulator will inform the relevant institution concerned of the outcome of the approval process and provide the final inspection report within 10 working days of the date of the decision by the regulator.	Wording changed from 'date of consideration' to 'date of decision'.
No previous rule existed	(12) the regulator may, on granting approval under rule 5(10)(a) or (b) above or at any time thereafter, notify the relevant institution concerned of the proposed interval before re-approval of the approved course.	Addition of rule 5(12) to include reference to date of notification of approval.

Re-approval of courses, qualifications and tests of knowledge

6. In order to re-approve courses of initial education and/or training, qualifications, tests of knowledge of English, BIA and AMHPs courses the regulator will subject relevant institutions concerned with the delivery of such courses, qualifications and tests to an inspection by one or more inspectors in accordance with regulation 21. Such inspections will aim to ensure that all such courses, qualifications and tests of knowledge meet the required standards for education and training and professional standards.	6 (1)The regulator will consider the re-approval of courses of initial education and/or training, qualifications, tests of knowledge of English, BIA and AMHPs courses at specified intervals to be determined by the regulator: (a) such intervals to be notified to the relevant institution by the regulator under Rules 5(12) or 7 of these Rules or at any other time subject to a minimum notice period of 9 months; (b) not to exceed six years from the most recent date of notification of approval under rule 5(11) or re-approval under rule 6(11); (2) In order to consider the re-approval of courses under rule 6(1) above, the regulator will subject relevant institutions	Rule 6 is removed and replaced with 6(1)-(13) Clarification of re-approval process (previously rule 7) Working days used instead of calendar days for consistency.
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	<p>concerned with the delivery of such courses, qualifications and tests to an inspection by one or more inspectors in accordance with regulation 21. Such inspections will aim to ensure that all such courses, qualifications and tests of knowledge meet the required standards for education and training and professional standards.</p> <p>(3) Prior to considering re-approval of courses under rule 6(1) above, the regulator will:</p> <p>Propose a date for the inspection</p> <p>allocate inspectors and a member of the regulator’s staff to the inspection.</p> <p>undergo a conflict of interest procedure in accordance with rule 11 of The Social Work England (Investigators, Case Examiners, Adjudicators and Inspectors) Rules 2019;</p> <p>(4) No later than 40 working days before the inspection scheduled under rule 6(3) above, the relevant institution must</p> <p>(a) confirm whether they seek re-approval under rule 6(3) above;</p> <p>(b) confirm whether they seek approval of a significant change to an approved course;</p> <p>(c) provide, in the form required by the regulator, information to show how they meet the criteria for approval set out at rule 3(2)(a)-(c) above and any other information requested by the regulator as being relevant to the inspection;</p> <p>(d) where seeking re-approval to deliver an AMHP course, provide the regulator with information setting out how</p>	
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	<p>they meet the criteria set out in rule 3(2)(d) above;</p> <p>(e) where seeking re-approval to deliver a BIA course, provide the regulator with information setting out how they meet the criteria set out in rule 3(2)(e) above</p> <p>(5) On receipt of this information the regulator will:</p> <p>(a) determine whether the information provided is sufficient to proceed to inspection;</p> <p>(b) notify the relevant institution seeking re-approval if any further information is required prior to an inspection being undertaken, and request this further information from the relevant institution.</p> <p>(c) confirm the date of the inspection with the relevant institution seeking re-approval, or, where further information is required under rule 6(5)(b), the regulator may in its discretion, rearrange the inspection and notify the relevant institution of the revised date.</p> <p>(6) On receipt of the information provided under rule 6(4)(c) and any further information provided in response to requests under rule 6(5)(b), and no less than 40 working days before the date of the inspection, the regulator will send the information to the inspectors for review.</p> <p>(7) Following the inspection, the member of the regulator's staff appointed under rule 6(3)(b) will write a draft inspection report on behalf of the inspectors which will be:</p>	
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	<p>(a) agreed by the inspectors within 30 working days of the date of the inspection; and</p> <p>(b) sent to the relevant institution concerned within 10 working days of that agreement.</p> <p>(8) Following receipt of the draft inspection report, the relevant institution may, within 20 working days:</p> <p>(a) propose factual corrections to the draft inspection report, and/or</p> <p>(b) provide observations on the draft inspection report.</p> <p>(9) Where no factual corrections or observations are provided by the relevant institution, the report will be treated as the final inspection report.</p> <p>(10) Where the relevant institution proposes factual corrections and/or provides observations, the regulator will provide such suggested factual corrections and/or observations to the inspectors who will consider whether to make any amendments to the report</p> <p>(11) Where material amendments are made to the report under rule 6(10), the final report will be sent to the relevant institution within 10 working days, and the relevant institution may provide any observations on the final inspection report for consideration by the regulator within 10 working days of receipt of the report.</p> <p>(12) The final inspection report, and any observations provided by the relevant institution at rule 6(8)(b) or rule 6(10) above, will be considered by the regulator, and:</p>	
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	<p>(a) if the relevant institution concerned satisfies the regulator that the course meets the criteria for approval and will enable the person who successfully completes it to meet the professional standards set out in rule 3(2)(b) above, the relevant institution will be granted approval without conditions and the course will be retained in the regulator's list of approved courses in accordance with rule 16(3) below; or</p> <p>(b) if the relevant institution concerned satisfies the regulator that the course meets the criteria for approval and will enable the person who successfully completes it to meet the professional standards set out in rule 3(2)(b) above with some exceptions in specific areas, the relevant institution concerned will be granted approval with conditions in accordance with rules 12 and 13 below and the course will be retained in the regulator's list of approved courses in accordance with rule 16(3) below; or</p> <p>(c) approval will be withdrawn from the relevant institution concerned in accordance with rule 14 below and the course will be removed from the regulator's list of approved courses.</p> <p>(13) the regulator will inform the relevant institution concerned of the outcome of the re-approval process and provide the final inspection report within 10 working days of the date of the decision by the regulator.</p>	
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<p>7. (1) Relevant institutions seeking; (a) re-approval to deliver a course of initial education and/or training, qualifications, tests of knowledge of English, BIA and AMHPs courses; or (b) approval of a significant change to an approved course of initial education and/or training, qualifications, tests of knowledge of English, BIA and AMHPs courses. must provide, in the form required by the regulator, evidence of how they meet the criteria for approval set out at rule3(2). (2) On receipt of the form the regulator will: (a) select a date for the inspection; (b) allocate inspectors and a member of the regulator’s staff to the inspection; (c) undergo a conflict of interest procedure in accordance with rule 11 of The Social Work England (Investigators, Case Examiners, Adjudicators and Inspectors) Rules 2019; (d)confirm the date of the inspection with the relevant institution seeking re-approval; and (e) notify the relevant institution seeking approval if any further evidence is required prior to an inspection being undertaken, and request this further information from the relevant institution. (3) Relevant institutions seeking re-approval to deliver a course of initial education and training, qualifications and tests of knowledge of English, must in preparation for the inspection provide the regulator with information in</p>	<p>7. The regulator may, on granting re-approval under rule 6(12)(a) or rule 6 12(b) above, or at any time thereafter, notify the relevant institution concerned of the proposed interval before re-approval of the approved course.</p>	<p>7(1)-(10) removed and replace with (7) Detail of rules 7(1)-(10) now covered within rule 6(1)-(13) Rule 7 now provides clarity about reapproval notification.</p>
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<p>the required form as to how they meet the criteria set out in rule 3(2)(a)-(c) above and any other information requested by the regulator as being relevant to the inspection no less than 40 working days before the date of the inspection.</p> <p>(4) Relevant institutions seeking re-approval to deliver an AMHP course must additionally in preparation for the inspection provide the regulator with information setting out how they meet the criteria set out in rule 3(2)(d) above no less than 40 working days before the date of the inspection.</p> <p>(5) Relevant institutions seeking re-approval to deliver a BIA course must additionally in preparation for the inspection provide the regulator with information setting out how they meet the criteria set out in rule 3(2)(e) above no less than 40 working days before the date of the inspection.</p> <p>(6) On receipt of the information provided under rule 7(1) the regulator will send the information to the inspectors for review.</p> <p>(7) On receipt of any information requested under rule 7(2)(e), the regulator will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) confirm the date of the inspection, or(b) rearrange the inspection and notify the relevant institution of the revised date. <p>(8) Following the inspection, the member of the regulator's staff appointed under rule 7(2)(b) will write a draft inspection report on behalf of the inspectors which will be:</p>		
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<p>(a) agreed by the inspectors within 42 calendar days of the date of the inspection; and</p> <p>(b) sent to the relevant institution concerned within 10 working days of that agreement.</p> <p>(9) The relevant institution concerned may provide factual corrections to the draft inspection report to the regulator within 28 calendar days, and these may result in the draft inspection report being amended.</p> <p>(10) The final report will be sent to the relevant institution within 10 working days of any amendments, and the relevant institution may provide any observations on the final inspection report for consideration by the regulator, and:</p> <p>(a) any such observations must be provided to the regulator within 10 working days.</p> <p>(11) The final inspection report, and any observations provided by the relevant institution under rule 7(10) above, will be considered by the regulator and:</p> <p>(a) if the relevant institution concerned satisfies the regulator that the course meets the criteria for approval and will enable the person who successfully completes it to meet the professional standards set out in rule 3(2)(b) above, the relevant institution will be granted approval without conditions and the course will be added to the regulator's list of approved courses in accordance with rule 16(3) below; or</p> <p>(b) if the relevant institution concerned satisfies the</p>		
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<p>regulator that the course meets the criteria for approval and will enable the person who successfully completes it to meet the professional standards set out in rule 3(2)(b) above with some exceptions in specific areas, the relevant institution concerned will be granted approval with conditions in accordance with rules 12 and 13 below and the course will be added to the regulator’s list of approved courses in accordance with rule 16(3) below; or</p> <p>(c) approval will be withdrawn from the relevant institution concerned in accordance with rule 14 below and the course will be removed from the regulator’s list of approved courses.</p> <p>(12) the regulator will inform the relevant institution concerned of the outcome of the re-approval process and provide the final inspection report within 10 working days of the date of the decision.</p>		
<p>Monitoring of courses, qualifications and tests of knowledge</p>		
<p>9(10) The regulator will make a decision about approval within 28 calendar days and will inform the relevant institution of this decision.</p>	<p>9(10) The regulator will make a decision about approval within 20 working days and will inform the relevant institution of this decision.</p>	<p>Working days used instead of calendar days for consistency.</p>
<p>9(12) The regulator will operate a process to act on concerns raised with the regulator from any other bodies or individuals about the quality of approved courses of initial education and training, qualifications, tests of knowledge of English, BIA and AMHPs courses provided by relevant institutions.</p>	<p>9(12) The regulator will operate a process to act on concerns identified by the regulator, or raised with the regulator from any other bodies or individuals about the quality of approved courses of initial education and training, qualifications, tests of knowledge of English, BIA and AMHPs courses provided by relevant institutions.</p>	<p>Rule 9(12) now includes detail about the regulator acting upon <i>concerns identified by the regulator as well as</i> any other bodies or individuals.</p>