



Deer Stalking Certificate 2 ePortfolio Candidate Guidance



Introduction

This guidance is for those registered or about to register for the award of Deer Stalking Certificate 2 (DSC2).

DSC2, requires an individual to carry out a number of practical tasks associated with the stalking and shooting of deer and preparation of carcasses. All tasks must be conducted under Deer Management Qualification (DMQ) Approved Witness observation and should not be attempted unless you have sufficient experience and ability.



DSC2 Registration

If you are not already registered for your DSC2 with a DMQ Approved Assessment Centre you will need to do so. There are a number of Approved Centres offering DSC2 and further information can be found on the DMQ website:

www.dmq.org.uk



DSC2 Registration

To register for DSC2, you will need to:

- Complete the Assessment Centre application form
- Return it to the Centre with the appropriate registration fee. (This may vary across Centres)
- Enclose a **Copy** of your blue DSC1 Certificate issued after 1 April 2006
- If you have an earlier buff coloured DSC1, you will need to also send a copy of a large game handling and general hygiene certificate issued by the National Gamekeepers Association or Lantra



ePortfolio Access

Your Assessment Centre will email you with:

- The website address where you can access your DSC2 ePortfolio
- Your user name and password





ePortfolio Access

Log on to **Onefile**
who are DMQ's
ePortfolio provider
with your Username
and Password sent
to you by your
Assessment Centre

Onefile
nomad
TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT EPORTFOLIO

Username or Keychain email

Password [Lost password](#)

Log in

Advanced Login Options ▾

Live Nomad Practice Area Standard Approval

f **Log in with Facebook**

If you have more than one Nomad account,
why not create a OneFile Keychain?



ePortfolio Access

Once logged in, you will be required to change your **Onefile** password. Keep your new password safely and securely.

Before you can progress, the programme will steer you toward a number of documents. You will be required to sign to say that you have read them.

The DSC2 Candidate Guidance gives an overview of the qualification and how you should go about gathering evidence.

A second document informs you of a need to contact your allocated ePortfolio Assessor, you will not be able to fully access your ePortfolio until you have done so.



ePortfolio Access

Within your ePortfolio, you will find a learners' resource section in which there are a number of documents which you can view or download. These are important to you and you should take time to read everything.

The ePortfolio Learner User Guide is found in here and explains fully how you can use your ePortfolio. It is important that you study it carefully as it contains information not covered elsewhere.

All documentation is also available from the DMQ website

www.dmq.org.uk



Using a Witness

To fulfil the evidence gathering requirements for DSC2, you are required to complete a number of practical tasks under the observation of a DMQ Approved Witness.

These tasks are referred to as Performance Criteria (PC's) and there are 28 in total. Each task has to be completed three times on separate occasions all observed by an Approved Witness.

The resources area of your ePortfolio provides contact details of all Approved Witnesses and you should select one (or more) to speak to requesting they consider witnessing you in your evidence gathering.



Using a Witness

It is important to remember that all your evidence must be generated solely by you and without help.

An Approved Witness is with you to observe you satisfactorily performing tasks as detailed in the performance criteria, to record, ask questions or create simulations.

An Approved Witness may not prompt, guide, steer or direct you in any way.

If your witness is of the view that you have insufficient skill or knowledge to perform a specific task, they may offer training but this cannot form any part of your evidence.



Using a Witness

An Approved Witness may wish to charge you for their time, travel or other incurred expenses.

If charges are to be made, you should agree this with your witness prior to the commencement of any stalking outing.

Any charges made forms a private agreement between you and your chosen witness and will never become a matter for DMQ to become involved in.

If you are not happy with charges made by a specific witness, contact other witnesses in the area you wish to stalk. There are many on the DMQ list for you to select.



Using a Witness

When you have agreed with a witness to accompany you either on your own land or theirs, make sure that:

- You have arranged a location, day and time to meet
- Have all the equipment with you needed to complete all tasks
- Take your firearms certificate (FAC) with you and proof of insurance
- If you have no FAC, take another form of photographic identification such as your passport or driving licence
- Write down your DMQ candidate number and the name and contact details of your allocated ePortfolio Assessor and give to your Approved Witness



Using a Witness

Prior to witnessing your activities, the Approved Witness will:

- Check your rifle and any conditions against your FAC
- Check your insurance and other documentation
- Ensure you have sufficient equipment to achieve all PC's
- Give you an overview of the proceedings
- Remind you that it is you who must take the lead in all activities
- Discuss and agree with you the day's cull plan
- Decide if they want you to check your rifle on a target prior to commencing the witnessed outing



Gathering Evidence

Using DSC2 ePortfolio, you are not given an actual portfolio to record your evidence in. Instead, everything is uploaded electronically.

To record a witnessed outing your Approved Witness downloads an Individual Cull Record (ICR). They complete it, fully or partially, only according to that outing. A new ICR will be downloaded for any subsequent outing.

The ICR details all the Performance Criteria you need to achieve together with the Key Features for each PC describing in more detail each of the PC requirements.



Gathering Evidence

Your Approved Witness is not permitted to show you his completed ICR and will send it direct to your Assessor.

Your Assessor will record the witnesses observations and upload the ICR to your ePortfolio where you will then be able to view it and agree it with your Assessor before commencing any subsequent ICR.

If you Assessor has concerns regarding any part of your evidence, they will contact you by email or telephone to discuss them. At this time, your Assessor may ask general or specific questions which you will be expected to answer competently. Satisfactory answers will be used to fill in gaps in your evidence.



Gathering Evidence

Make sure that you understand the details of each PC and its key features before having it witnessed.

A copy of an Individual Cull Record can be found in the resources section of your ePortfolio, you are advised to download a copy and study it prior to any outing so that you are fully conversant with what is expected of you.

The following section, details each of the performance criteria and key features with further elaboration where necessary:-



Performance Criteria

The performance criteria are separated into four elements:

- Stalk Deer - 7 PC's
- Cull Deer - 7 PC's
- Prepare and Inspect Dead Deer - 8 PC's
- Transport and Store Dead Deer - 6 PC's

All to be achieved three times on three separate occasions



Element 1 PC 1.0

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 1.0	Key Features
Candidate to provide proof of identity	Witness to check candidate's identity by Firearm Certificate, photographic driving license or passport

You will be required to show your Firearm Certificate to validate your identity. If you do not have a Firearm Certificate you will need to produce a current and valid photo identification such as your passport or driving licence.

Your witness will check that any rifle brought by you to carry out your stalking is legally held. They will also want to see proof of your third party liability insurance.

If you are using the "estate rifle facility" the witness will expect YOU to ask to see their FAC so that you can confirm to them that your use of the rifle is legal.



Element 1 PC 1.1

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 1.1	Key Features
Perform work safely in line with health and safety requirements	Safe working practices are demonstrated throughout ICR. Observe that suitable clothing is worn for conditions. Check that appropriate safety equipment carried

This PC is about you demonstrating safe practise at all times covering each of the PC's within element one.

You must be familiar with, and take steps to eliminate or reduce, all risks to you and those around you arising from the use of firearms, tools and equipment as well as from your environment.

You will be expected to demonstrate to your witness that you are carrying safety kit relevant to where you are stalking and that all equipment has been checked for safe operation and in date compliance. An example of this could be the contents of a first aid box.



Element 1 PC 1.2

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 1.2	Key Features
Determine the cull animal required	Candidate establishes, by own decision or by enquiry, which species, sex, age group of animals are legal and intended to be culled, and which are priorities. AW to detail agreement below

Before you set out on your stalking outing, you are required to agree with your witness what species, sex and age group of deer are to be stalked and culled by you.

You should know what deer are likely to be found in the area and what the close seasons are for those species. Your witness may well ask you questions to test your knowledge of deer in the locality and may impose further restrictions or requirements as to which animals are to be culled if you are stalking on their ground.

Any animal culled by you must match the cull criteria agreed unless circumstances such as encountering an injured deer were to arise.



Element 1 PC 1.3

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 1.3	Key Features
Select firearm and ammunition to meet requirements of planned cull	Candidate has a deer legal rifle calibre and sufficient legal ammunition for shooting deer detailed in PC 1.2. Legal possession of a firearm, borrowed or owned. FAC conditions must allow for intended use

Various Acts and Orders are in place throughout the UK stipulating what firearm and ammunition can legally be used to cull deer in any particular country. You must use a rifle and ammunition legal for the animal agreed under PC 1.2. Your witness will also check that any conditions on your firearm certificate do not prohibit you from stalking over the ground you are on.

You are able complete DSC 2 without the need to own a firearm or have a firearm certificate providing you can legally borrow a rifle within the terms of the Firearms Act.



Element 1 PC 1.4

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 1.4	Key Features
Prepare tools, equipment and firearm into a safe and serviceable condition suitable for culling activities	Candidate shows possession of equipment and tools which may include for example: binoculars, knives, ATVs and high seats.

You are required to carry sufficient equipment with you to enable deer to be stalked, shot humanely, field dressed safely and hygienically extracted to a larder. Such equipment might include a rifle, binoculars, knife, latex gloves, a clean carcass tray and an off-road vehicle to name but a few.

You must ensure that adequate equipment is carried and that it is in a safe and useable workable condition.



Element 1 PC 1.5

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 1.5	Key Features
Locate and approach deer to a distance where a safe and effective shot can be taken, taking account of the natural features of the location	Candidate without help or guidance is observed locating previously unseen deer. Candidate leads stalk and approaches deer to a reasonable distance where a safe and humane shot can be taken

You must locate deer in their natural habitat and with you leading the stalk, get to within a distance where, within your capabilities, an accurate, safe shot can be taken. Deer should be stationary in front of an appropriate backstop which will capture the bullet. A witness will not spot deer for you or guide you to a shooting position, but may prevent you from taking what they consider to be an unsafe or inhumane shot.

If a deer is shot from a high seat, further evidence will be required to satisfy the “approach” element of this PC. In this situation, another deer will be stalked at ground level to a point where a safe and humane shot could be taken. You would not need to actually shoot it.



Element 1 PC 1.6

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 1.6	Key Features
Select individual deer to meet cull requirements	Candidate confirms that the animal selected by them for culling meets the agreed specification detailed under PC 1.2 prior to approaching the shot deer.

Under PC 1.2, cull criteria will have been agreed. For PC 1.6 the animal shot must meet these criteria. This must be done before the shot animal is approached. Usually there will be time for you to identify the animal you plan to shoot to the witness. You may be asked by your witness to identify your intended cull animal more than once as the stalk progresses, particularly if there are several deer in a group. If there is no time to discuss the target animal with the witness before the shot is taken you must describe it at an appropriate opportunity before the animal is approached.

You may be asked by your witness to identify your intended cull animal more than once as the stalk progresses.

When an animal is nominated to be culled, it must be the one that is culled unless you inform the witness of any change and why.



Element 2 PC 2.1

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 2.1	Key Features
Handle firearm safely and efficiently according to Codes of Practice/Best Practice	At all times throughout the ICR the candidate demonstrates safe handling of their firearm. Witness remains close enough to observe the correct use of a safety catch and that safe muzzle awareness and backstop are maintained.

This PC covers the rifle safety techniques assessed at DSC 1 as applied in a field situation. It is about safe rifle handling, in particular safe loading/unloading, muzzle awareness and the use of the safety catch.

You are required to demonstrate safe practice throughout the whole of the ICR from the time you first handle your rifle until you put it away. This includes time not actively stalking.

Your witness will always be close enough to you to ensure that you comply with all safety requirements.



Element 2 PC 2.2

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 2.2	Key Features
Shoot deer safely, humanely and minimising carcass contamination, according to location and legal requirements	Anti-mortem inspection is carried out. Candidate states intended shot placement either before shooting or before approaching shot deer. Following any shot the rifle is reloaded immediately and the safety applied

Prior to shooting, you will observe the deer's condition and behaviour as is required of you as a Trained Hunter, this must be reported to the witness. The shooting position adopted will be one that enables a steady shot to be taken. Usually, prior to the shot, you will have time to inform your witness where you intend to place your shot. If there is no time for this you must declare your intended shot placement before approaching the animal to confirm.

Following the shot the correct procedures such as immediate reloading, keeping the rifle pointing in the direction of the target whilst observing it in case a second shot is required, must be followed.

Head shots are not recommended and the chest area is preferred.



Element 2 PC 2.3

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 2.3	Key Features
Observe reaction of deer to the shot to determine its condition	Candidate is asked to describe why they think the deer is either Dead, Wounded, or Missed. Candidate decides on follow up plan according to reaction of shot deer. Position of strike and last known position of deer is identified. Candidate allows a suitable time period before following up. If immediate action is required to deal with a wounded animal this element can be completed at the next suitable opportunity.

Take note of the animals reaction to the shot. Inform your witness where you believe the shot actually struck, and if you believe it to be dead, wounded or missed.

Report where the deer was standing when you shot and where it was last seen. Decide on a follow up plan and wait for an appropriate period to follow up unless immediate action is required.



Element 2 PC 2.4

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 2.4	Key Features
Locate and confirm condition of shot deer	Candidate locates shot deer using appropriate methods. Candidate makes all decisions as to how to conduct the follow up, including changes to plan and if a dog is to be brought in to help. Witness describes the Candidate led follow up below

Inform your witness of your follow-up plan. According to that plan you will carefully approach the deer taking into account any changing circumstances or safety issues. If you decide on a change of plan, which may include deciding a dog is needed, you will inform your witness. Your witness will record your follow-up plan and your actions taken in locating the deer. If immediate action was required your witness will ask you to describe why you took the action that you did.

If the witness considers that your plan or actions might compromise the welfare of a shot animal they may take over and will not be able to sign off this PC.



Element 2 PC 2.5

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 2.5	Key Features
Approach shot deer safely according to its presumed condition	Candidate approaches shot deer with appropriate caution and if considered dead, checks for eye blink reaction or other method. If considered wounded Candidate takes appropriate action. Candidate shows an awareness of the dangers from hooves and/or antlers when handling

Having located the shot deer, you are required to approach it with caution and confirm in a recognised way that the animal is dead. You must take the appropriate action to dispatch the deer if it is wounded.

You must constantly be aware of the danger and injury potential from antlers or hooves and take measures to reduce any risk of personal injury.



Element 2 PC 2.6

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 2.6	Key Features
Dispatch wounded deer humanely	Candidate observed taking appropriate action for humane dispatch of wounded deer. Witness to give description of events. If no wounded deer, candidate to respond to scenario given by Witness. The candidate may respond by answering questions or acting out the scenario. In either case Witness records the Candidate's answers or describes how the simulation was completed

Hopefully, you will not have a wounded deer but if you do, you will take the appropriate action to dispatch it humanely and quickly. If you consider a dog is required, it is for you to instigate this.

If there is no wounded deer you will still have to demonstrate you know how to deal with such a situation. Your witness may create a simulation for you to show your ability and/or may ask questions which you will be required to answer correctly.



Element 2 PC 2.7

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 2.7	Key Features
Confirm status of deer against cull requirements	Candidate checks shot deer meets cull requirements detailed under PC 1.2. Candidate demonstrates an awareness of the possibility of dependent young

Near the beginning of the ICR, you were asked to determine and agree the cull animal required.

You have to be observed by your witness establishing that the dead deer fulfils what you agreed under PC 1.2. It must be the same species and sex and within the age group agreed. Knowledge of tooth wear and eruption will assist in determining the age group of the dead deer.

Depending on the species of deer and when shot, there can be a risk when shooting females of dependant young being orphaned. You will need to demonstrate how you would ascertain this and what action you might take to alleviate any suffering by an orphaned deer.



Element 3 PC 3.1

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 3.1	Key Features
Carry out work hygienically in line with food safety regulations & health and safety requirements. Ensure tools and equipment are ready for use	Cross contamination avoided where possible. Lifting and hanging equipment serviceable and conforms to legal requirements. Candidate does not compromise personal lifting safety. Clean personal safety equipment serviceable and available for use (Field or Larder). Carcasses lifted and handled safely and correctly

This PC focuses on safe and hygienic practice to prevent injuries and to minimise the risk of contaminated produce from entering into the food chain.

Such practises are a legal requirement under Food Safety, Disease Notification and Competent Persons (Trained Hunter) regulations. You will be observed by your witness maintaining standards throughout all the PCs forming part of this element and others.



Element 3 PC 3.2

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 3.2	Key Features
Bleed and gralloch carcass hygienically and efficiently	Candidate observed carrying out external inspection and bleeding. Candidate prevents contamination by the use of disposable gloves or hand washing. Partial or full gralloch is completed in the cleanest available area or suspended. Candidate takes measures to prevent contamination from digestive tract

You must carry out an external examination of the carcass to identify any abnormalities or conditions which requires recording. You should explain to your witness what you are doing and why.

Whilst there is no specific way to carry out a gralloch, you must demonstrate that how you do it is hygienic and done in a way that minimises contamination from every possible source.



Element 3 PC 3.3

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 3.3	Key Features
Dress deer carcass ready to enter the food chain according to legal requirements	Candidate observed inspecting and removing the head, hooves, and any remaining internal organs avoiding unnecessary contamination or damage to carcass. Candidate observed removing any unavoidable minor contamination.

To fulfil this PC, your witness will see you demonstrate that you are able to competently remove heads, hooves and any remaining internal organs. Carcass contamination will be avoided as will any additional carcass damage.

Your witness will observe you removing any minor carcass contamination appropriately, leaving the carcass in a condition so that it is fit to enter the human food chain.



Element 3 PC 3.4

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 3.4	Key Features
Inspect carcass, organs and lymph sites for normality according to legal requirements	Without prompting or guidance, candidate demonstrates locating and inspecting the mesenteric, sub-maxillary and retropharyngeal lymph nodes. If lymph nodes in head are not available for inspection, candidate must inspect any 2 of the following: portal, gastric, bronchial or mediastinal. Candidate observed carrying out internal inspection of the empty carcass

You need to know how to locate and identify the common lymph nodes to achieve this PC. Your witness will not prompt you in any way and it is for you to initiate the inspection and demonstrate your ability in this task to your witness. If shot damage has removed some glands alternatives must be found.

The empty carcass must receive a final check for abnormalities.

It is important to practice this PC as often as you can before having it formally witnessed.



Element 3 PC 3.5

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 3.5	Key Features
Take appropriate action when carcass abnormality is identified, according to legal requirements	Candidate observed checking for carcass abnormalities. Witness to record any found by candidate and action taken by them. Witness records any not found by candidate

To complete this PC, and without help, you need to inspect the carcass for any abnormality and if found, decide what action if any you will take. This may be as simple as a note on the carcass declaration or possibly rejection from the food chain and appropriate disposal.

You must know precisely who needs to be informed particularly when a notifiable disease is suspected and what action is required.

Your witness will note and record anything found by you and will also detail anything not noticed by you but observed by the them. This may result in the PC not being signed off



Element 3 PC 3.6

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 3.6	Key Features
Dispose of waste from deer preparation in a safe manner according to legal requirements	Candidate observed appropriately disposing of waste in field, or from larder. Candidate identifies unfit carcass or offal and isolates. Witness records any found

You must demonstrate the disposal of waste in a legal and safe manner both in the field and/or larder. If you are working in a larder you are not familiar with, you should ask your witness what provision is made at the location for the safe and legal disposal of waste and act accordingly.

You will need to know what qualifies as an unfit carcass and be seen to treat any condemned carcasses or offal in a way which ensures it cannot enter the food chain. If anything unfit is found by you, your witness will record the details in the notes they will send to your ePortfolio Assessor.



Element 3 PC 3.7

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 3.7	Key Features
Identify and record status of deer carcass	Candidate completes hunter declaration and tags carcass accordingly

Carcass tags should form part of your equipment and in expectation of shooting a deer during your witnessed outing, tags should be brought with you.

If you were stalking on someone else's ground they may ask that you use a tag supplied by them.

Even if the carcass is not intended for delivery to an Approved Game Handling Establishment, in order to comply with this PC, you must be seen to complete and apply a declaration tag which complies with Food Standard Agency requirements.



Element 3 PC 3.8

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 3.8	Key Features
Clean and store tools and equipment after use	Candidate cleans tools and equipment used in above processes and leaves them prepared for next use

Following each use, you must leave all tools and other equipment used in the preparation of deer (either in the field or a larder) in a clean and sterile condition ready for when they are needed again.



Element 4 Transport and Store Dead Deer

Performance Criteria

Much of your practical work within this element will ideally take place in a fully equipped larder incorporating a separate temperature controlled carcass storage area.

It is recognised that you or the witness on whose ground you might be, may not have a larder facility which can be used. In these circumstances, certain PC's within this element cannot be observed by your witness, however, you are still required to know the correct procedures for operating within a larder.

In due course, your ePortfolio Assessor will question you extensively to ascertain your knowledge of larder use covering the PC's if not observed by your witness.

If a larder is not used, best practice must always be demonstrated.



Element 4 PC 4.1

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 4.1	Key Features
Carry out work hygienically and safely in line with food safety and with health and safety requirements	Candidate ensures knives and other equipment are suitable prior to use and kept serviceable and clean. Candidate works safely

This section of the ICR is concerned with you maintaining safety and carcass quality during transportation and storage and applies throughout all PCs in this section.

You must ensure that at all times you are aware of your personal safety and of those around you and any that equipment used is serviceable and clean.



Element 4 PC 4.2

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 4.2	Key Features
Transport carcass in a hygienic manner to maintain its quality	Candidate chooses a realistic and safe retrieval/transport route and method from those available. Transportation method is suitable, safe and hygienic. Carcass and waste is transported in suitable containers as appropriate. Damage or contamination to carcass minimised en route

Whilst this PC might normally apply to transportation from the field to larder, it could equally apply from larder to an approved game handling establishment, or from larder to home in your car. Whatever the circumstances you must meet the key features of this PC and you will need to demonstrate that removing a carcass from the field to where it will be stored as an in-skin carcass is done in a way that minimises contamination and damage.

If a vehicle is supplied and driven by the witness, it is for you to confirm to the witness that the vehicle is clean, to load and secure the carcass, and decide the route to be taken.



Element 4 PC 4.3

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 4.3	Key Features
Establish storage areas in a hygienic condition suitable for receiving carcasses	Candidate checks that all necessary equipment is available and safely stored. Area clean and ready to receive carcass. Checks that storage areas are suitable for purpose and lifting and hanging equipment is serviceable and conforms to legal requirements

Before a carcass is taken into a larder, you must ensure that the larder is in a condition that will not affect food safety or introduce contamination. You need to establish that correct cleaning agents have been used and there is no risk of contamination from these.

You will check that any storage area used is clean, free of contaminants and generally fit for purpose. You will also check that any lifting or carcass hanging equipment is safe, serviceable and conforms to any legislative requirements.



Element 4 PC 4.4

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 4.4	Key Features
Store deer according to legal requirements	Candidate checks that temperature, ventilation, vermin and contamination factors are acceptable within best practice

Wherever carcasses are stored, they must be kept cool, ventilated and preferably chilled. From time of culling to storage, carcass temperature must never be allowed to increase.

You must know the correct temperature range and conditions under which carcasses should be stored.

You need to ensure the storage area is fit for purpose and does not allow the ingress of contaminants, insects or vermin or domestic animals and that any chemicals or detergents are stored appropriately.



Element 4 PC 4.5

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 4.5	Key Features
Clean tools, equipment and facilities after use	Candidate ensures that tools and equipment used in above processes are cleaned and prepared for next use

After you have used a storage facility it should be properly cleaned by you using the correct cleaning agents and left in a condition ready to receive fresh carcasses.

Likewise all tools and working equipment such as trestles and carcass hanging systems need to be cleaned thoroughly.

All cleaning agents and chemicals used, are to be returned to storage away from carcass handling areas.

It is your responsibility to do this before leaving the storage facility.



Element 4 PC 4.6

Performance Criteria

Performance Criteria 4.6	Key Features
Maintain accurate cull and larder records according to legal requirements	Candidate maintains accurate records of: date shot, species, sex, age, reproductive status, weight, abnormalities and disposal.

Cull and larder records must be kept and written up in an appropriate way.

You may additionally be required to complete any estate record prior to leaving a larder if it is not your own.



Candidate Narrative

You will now have completed some or all the performance criteria contained within an individual cull record. The details of your achievements will be sent by your Approved Witness direct to your ePortfolio Assessor.

When you have returned from your outing, even if you were not able to complete all PCs, you are required to write a Candidate Narrative for every ICR. It should be emailed directly to your ePortfolio Assessor, not your witness. Your Assessor will not process any information received from your witness until you send in your narrative.

Your narrative should give a short overview of your outing. You should stick to facts rather than create a story.

Make sure that as well as recording what went well, you also record situations such as when it was necessary to do an additional stalk because the shot deer was from a high seat, or when something did not go quite right.

A Narrative form will be found in your ePortfolio resources section and can be completed and saved electronically.



ePortfolio Progression

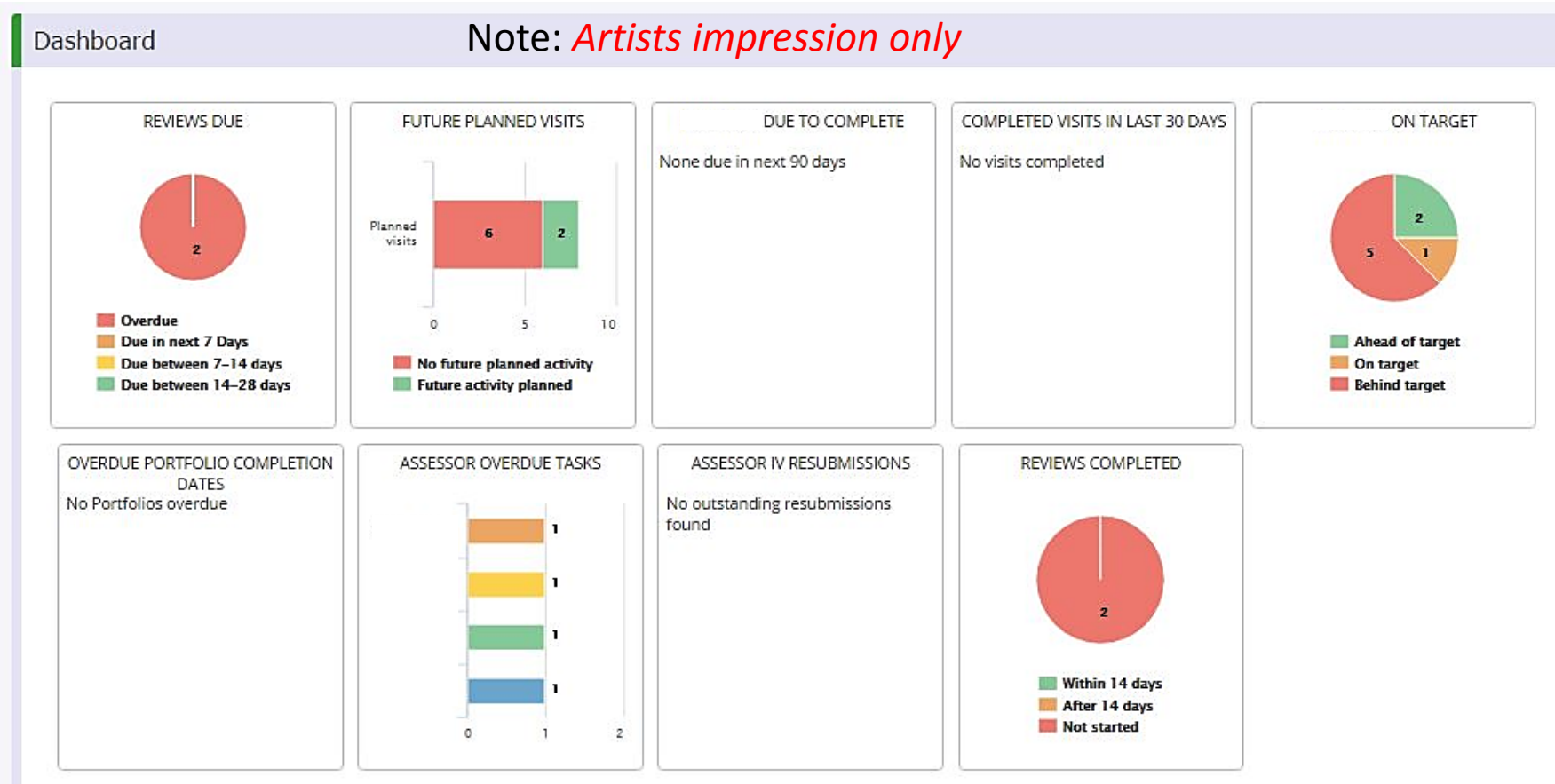
During your evidence submission, your assigned Assessor will need to correspond with you and at times ask you a number of additional questions. Communication will be by email, and telephone if questions are to be asked.

Your Assessor will not normally be employed full time by your Assessment Centre. This means that telephone calls may be made during the evening or at weekends. You may sometimes find your Assessor emails you to arrange a day and time which is convenient for you to telephone them, particularly if you only have a mobile telephone number.



ePortfolio Progression

You can look at your ePortfolio 'dashboard' at any time and see at a glance how you are progressing toward your DSC2.





ePortfolio Progression

When all your evidence has been submitted and accepted by your Assessor, it will be checked by an Internal Quality Assurer. If they agree with the assessment outcome, the Assessment Centre Manager will inform DMQ who in turn will post your DSC2 certificate to you.

Your ePortfolio will be archived by your Assessment Centre but will remain available to you for a number of years if you wish maintain a record of your continued development as a stalker.

There is a facility to download your ePortfolio to a suitable memory stick or hard drive which you can maintain as a permanent record of your work.



Recap

- Read and digest all candidate information and guidance made available to you.
- Speak to your allocated ePortfolio Assessor prior to commencing your evidence gathering.
- Select an Approved Witness from the DMQ list and make contact to arrange a witnessed outing.
- On witnessed outings, take with you your firearms certificate, proof of insurance, your DMQ candidate number and the name of your allocated ePortfolio Assessor. Also, photo identification if not in possession of a current valid firearm certificate.
- Following your witnessed outing, write up a candidate narrative describing the event and email to your ePortfolio Assessor.
- Respond to communication from your Assessor and be prepared to have a telephone conversation with them during which you may be asked a number of questions relating to the performance criteria and key features for evidence.
- Check regularly your ePortfolio and respond to any tasks or messages showing.
- Always feel free to communicate with your Assessor if there is anything you are unsure of.
- When your award of DSC2 has been granted, copy your ePortfolio to a suitable electronic storage facility.



DMQ wish you well with your evidence gathering and if you are unsure of anything, contact your ePortfolio Assessor in the first instance.