

MAST AND TOWER SAFETY (MATS):  
BASIC TOWER CLIMBING & RESCUE  
SCHEME HANDBOOK



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# Mast and Tower Safety (MATS): Basic Tower Climbing & Rescue

## Scheme Handbook

May 2022

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## Document control

Version	Date	Change detail	Section
v6	May 2022	Restructured and rebranded	All
		Reference to Arqiva certificates removed	All
		Reference to Petzl Cracker removed	All
		Updated legislation, PPE and EN standards	All
		Updated Medical requirements in line with GN-005	2.2.2.2
		Inclusion of Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	2.3.4
		Added guidance for written assessments	2.4.3
		Added guidance for practical assessments	2.4.4
		Additional requirement - all individuals must have at least 2 practice attempts at both climbing & rescue prior to any formal assessment	2.4.4
		Replicated the requirement for signed declaration of medical fitness to climb to 1-day Renewal programme	2.4.5.1
		Additional requirement – all individuals to carry out a site-specific practical risk assessment (learning outcome 2.6)	Appx A Unit 2



# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 About Energy & Utility Skills Group

We provide membership, assurance, and skills solutions to help employers in the utilities sector attract, develop, and retain a sustainable and skilled workforce.

Our UK-wide membership includes the major infrastructure companies within the gas, power, water, and waste management industries – as well as the supply chain and contractors.

Within the Energy & Utility Skills Group we have EUIAS (the sector's apprenticeship end point assessment organisation), the National Skills Academy for Power (NSAP) and EUSR (the sector's online register for training, skills and sometimes authorisations and qualifications).

## 1.2 Introduction to the Mast and Tower Safety (MATS): Basic Tower Climbing & Rescue Scheme

This handbook is to support those approved to deliver or seeking Provider and Programme Approval to deliver the MATS: Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue scheme. It is comprised of three parts:

Part A details the scheme delivery and assessment requirements which an Approved provider must adhere to.

Part B details the process for Provider Approval and Training Programme Approval. It sets out the criteria that you and your training programme must align to as well as providing guidance on the types of evidence that may be submitted as part of your application.

Part C is the Self-Assessment Report (SAR). The SAR, its supporting forms and appendices are for you to complete to tell us about your Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue training programme and how this maps to the MATS scheme standards.

If you require any support, need any additional information, or if you have any questions relating to this document, please contact us:

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## 2. Part A: Scheme Delivery & Assessment

### 2.1 Scheme overview

The Mast and Tower Safety (MATS): Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue scheme is designed to support the safety of those individuals who work on towers and masts in the telecommunications and broadcast industry. It provides a framework to support consistency and relevance in training provision and assessment of competence.

Developed in collaboration with the industry “Mast and Tower Safety Group”, the scheme standards detail the skills and underpinning knowledge required to climb towers and masts competently and safely. The scheme covers the minimum training and assessment required for those working safely on masts and towers. It incorporates the relevant requirements of the following HSE legislation:

- Health and Safety at Work Act, 1974.
- Work at Height Regulations 2005.
- Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER) 1998.

The scheme also complies with BS8454:2006 - *Code of Practice for the delivery of training and education for work at height and rescue*.

The MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue scheme consists of two parts: an initial 3-day training programme and a mandatory 1-day annual renewal course.

The scheme provides standards which clearly define expectations in terms of the performance, knowledge and skills of individuals performing climbing and rescue activities. Compliance with these standards is represented by an EUSR registration and card. The set of industry standards are detailed in the scheme specification, a link to which can be found on page 9.

EUSR registration on this scheme is **valid for 1 year from the date of training programme and assessment completion**.

### 2.2 Entry requirements

#### 2.2.1 Programme entry requirements

The MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue scheme is designed to be delivered and assessed in English only. Where individuals do not have English as a first language, these individuals are permitted to undertake programmes, but Approved Providers should be aware that the scheme is in English and that they should apply due care and attention in initial assessment, advice, and guidance to ensure that individuals are appropriate for the programme.

All Individuals new to Tower Climbing and Rescue must undertake the full 3-day initial training programme.

- An individual with a current Energy & Utility Skills Register (EUSR) registration for Basic Tower Climbing & Rescue is permitted to undertake the 1-day Renewal training programme
- An individual whose EUSR Basic Tower Climbing & Rescue scheme registration has expired has up to 12 months after the expiry date to complete the 1-day Renewal training programme
- Where an individual's EUSR registration for Basic Tower Climbing & Rescue has expired for more than 12 months, the full 3-day initial training program must be undertaken

Approved Providers must retain evidence of the individual's previous approved training certificates and/or EUSR registrations for audit purposes.

## 2.2.2 Pre-requisites

### 2.2.2.1 Employer competency scheme

Individuals taking part in this scheme must be at least 18 years old. The employers of individuals between the ages of 18 and 21 will be required to demonstrate that there is a competency assurance scheme in operation within the workplace, to monitor individuals' development and training requirements before being enrolled onto a MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue approved training programme.

### 2.2.2.2 Working at height medical requirements

Individuals will be required to declare by signature, at the start of both the initial course and the renewal course, that they have undertaken and passed a suitable fitness assessment/medical for climbing and working at heights in accordance with MATS Group Guidance GN-005 *Medical Requirements for Climbing Masts and Towers*. This guidance note sets out the minimum standard and employers may choose to ask its employees to undertake more frequent fitness assessments/ medicals for climbing at height.

Medicals are required to:

- Highlight medical problems early.
- Minimise the risk of sudden incapacity and need of rescue.
- Encourage employees to seek medical support to compensate for relevant medical conditions.
- Provide consistency in assessment.



Medicals should be undertaken prior to any climber training or activities to ensure fitness to climb. They should be repeated at regular intervals based on age to ensure that there is a continuing assessment of both health and fitness to climb. The usual approach is:

- Under 50 – every 3 years  
(some employers may adopt more regular intervals if deemed necessary due to remote locations or risk assessment)
- 50 or over – annually

It should also be noted that there is a requirement for requesting medicals outside of the standard periodicity if there are any concerns from the line manager or individual regarding fitness to climb following sickness absence, diagnosis of a new medical condition, following injury/accidents or as specified by the examining physician following previous restricted or failed medical.

Approved Providers must inform individuals taking part in the approved training programme about the potential risks associated with working at height, including diseases and both mental and physical conditions. Individuals will be required to confirm by signature that they have understood the information given to them and they will also be asked to sign a statement explaining that the trainer has a right to exclude any individual from training at any stage if they have concerns regarding their health and/or fitness.

Approved Providers must be able to verify this and keep the appropriate records securely for Energy & Utility Skills Group audit purposes.

## 2.3 Delivery requirements

### 2.3.1 MATS Basic Tower Climbing & Rescue scheme specification

The [scheme specification for both initial training and renewal can be found here](#).

### 2.3.2 Practical training facilities

A mast or tower structure not less than 10m in height must be available which includes fixed fall arrest systems commonly used in the sector e.g. “latchways”. The structure will be designed, so that individuals gain experience of the real-life practicalities of climbing operationally. The tower or mast structure must also include dummy antennae and ancillary steelwork in order to test individuals’ aptitude to work at height safely.

Where the tower or mast structure is a narrow lattice type and offers little more practical climbing experience than that gained by climbing a fixed ladder, a second wider faced structure must be available in order to ‘test’ individuals’ ability to use PPE correctly, select appropriate anchor points and ascend/descend safely. This structure does not need to be as high as the first as it is not used to test aptitude for working at height. All practical facilities and equipment must be maintained and where appropriate, inspected and tested in accordance with current national legislation and manufacturers’ recommendations.

#### 2.3.2.1 Use of Facilities

The Approved Provider must hold the required permits to operate the facilities. Evidence of site ownership, or systems for ensuring legal right to use the facilities and equipment associated with delivery and assessment of an approved MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue programme must be in place.

#### 2.3.2.2 Insurance cover

The Approved Provider must have and maintain adequate insurance cover for all approved sites in respect of all risks that may occur when carrying out activities outlined within the MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue programme submission.

#### 2.3.2.3 Risk assessments

Risk assessments must be conducted and documented for all training facilities.

### 2.3.3 Trainer/ Individual Ratio

The following ratios apply for both initial training and assessment and any renewal training and assessment.

#### 2.3.3.1 Classroom Training

The Trainer/ individual ratio for any classroom type training and/or assessment in this scheme is a maximum of 12 individuals to each Trainer.

#### 2.3.3.2 Practical Training

The ratio for practical training sessions, including climbing at height is a maximum of 1 Trainer per 6 individuals.

#### 2.3.3.3 Practical Assessment

The ratio for assessment should also be no more than 6 individuals per assessor. The Approved Provider may, however, choose to reduce the number of individuals allowed 'at height' during practical sessions depending on the structure type and risk assessment.

### 2.3.4 Guided Learning Hours (GLH)

Any initial Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue programme must be a **minimum** of 18 guided learning hours over 3 consecutive days to adequately cover the items outlined in the specification and allow individuals to undertake the practical training and assessment.

Any renewal Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue programme must be a **minimum** of 6 guided learning hours over 1 day to adequately cover the items outlined in the renewal specification and allow individuals to undertake the practical training and assessment.

Please note: the **minimum** guided learning hours do not include breaks, travel or other additional time involved.

### 2.3.5 Programme Structure

The training programme needs to consist of a knowledge element, a practical demonstration which involves using the equipment, followed by a practical climbing session which brings all the required knowledge and skills together. It is envisaged that the training programme would be structured as follows:

- 1-day classroom/ knowledge theory
- 1-day practical skills training using equipment
- 1-day carrying out practical assessments of climbing and rescue on a structure.

The initial scheme is designed for use with first time climbers and offers an introduction to basic tower climbing and rescue. Both knowledge and practical elements must be assessed.

Any renewal training programme must be a minimum of 1-day and include a practical assessment of climbing and rescue competence.

When designing both your initial and renewal training programmes you should also refer to the MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue scheme specification which sets out the learning outcome requirements for the assessment of individual's knowledge, understanding and practical skills as follows:

1. For the knowledge and understanding learning outcomes, these have been divided into those that are identified as:

**Mandatory** which must be delivered and assessed within the programme of learning

and

**Optional.** Whilst each of these objectives must be delivered within the programme of learning, you are free to select certain outcomes from each unit for the purposes of assessment.

2. For the practical skills, each individual must be assessed in relation to each of the practical learning objectives shown within each unit, and, therefore, these have been shown as requiring mandatory assessment.

## 2.4 Assessment

### 2.4.1 Assessment Guidelines

The MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue scheme is designed to be assessed in English only. Where individuals do not have English as a first language the use of interpreters is not permitted however, Approved Providers must refer to Energy & Utility Skills Group Reasonable Adjustments policy and seek approval for the appropriate adjustment to support the individual.

### 2.4.2 e-Assessment

If the assessment of knowledge in your programme involves a form of e-learning leading to some form of e-assessment, then you will also need to complete the e-Assessment SAR.

### 2.4.3 Written assessment

Written assessment may take the form of either multiple choice questions or short answer questions. These may be supplemented using a professional discussion, verbal questioning, or written statements/ essays.

#### Test Papers

- The written assessment must comply with the mandatory and optional knowledge criteria (KC) requirements set out in the assessment specification
- If you are adopting the use of oral questions to cover specific KC, as part of the practical assessment, the remaining KC must be assessed using a written assessment.
- The written assessment should not be limited to one set of questions, rather, there should be more than one assessment, which are all regularly used.
- The written assessment can be made up of written questions (requiring a written response), multiple choice questions or a combination of both methods.

All written assessments undertaken by individuals must be kept for auditing purposes.

The following guidelines must be applied during any formal written assessment which may be part of the knowledge component of the programme:

- Assessment or test papers must be kept secure and locked away, with limited access.
- Mobile phones and all electronic devices must be switched off before the assessment commences and remain switched off throughout the duration.
- Individuals must be given enough time to read the questions for themselves - even if they are also read out by the trainer or invigilator.
- There must not be any breaks whatsoever during the assessment. Should any individual need to use the toilet this may be permitted in extenuating circumstances subject to the individual being escorted to and from the facilities by a 2nd member of staff, allowing the invigilator to remain in the assessment room.
- Individuals taking the assessment must not communicate with each other

- All personal belongings - including bags, notes, purses/wallets, phones, drinks, or food – must be removed from the table before the assessment starts.
- There must be adequate space between individuals taking the test to minimise the risk of cheating.
- Any special considerations or adjustments must comply with our Reasonable Adjustments Policy.
- All display materials in the assessment room which may be useful to an individual during the assessment must be taken down or removed.

#### 2.4.4 Practical assessment

The live practical assessments must be developed and designed using the mast/ tower facilities and equipment specified.

An individual must have undertaken a minimum of 2 practice climbs and 2 practice rescues before being assessed. Individuals must then demonstrate a live tower climbing exercise and a live rescue which should be assessed via direct observation.

Failure to follow these assessment guidelines could result in the assessments being declared void, sanctions being applied, or Provider Approval being removed.

#### **Pass Rate**

- The individual must pass all activities required, that cover all performance criteria, as part of the practical assessment.

The practical assessment observation sheets for all assessments undertaken by individuals must be kept for auditing purposes.

#### 2.4.5 Renewal, Assessment Attempts and Assessment only

##### 2.4.5.1 Renewal

To renew an EUSR registration, individuals must demonstrate their continuing compliance with the scheme specification through a re-assessment by an Energy & Utility Skills Group Approved Provider on an Energy & Utility Skills Group approved MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue training programme. The 1-day renewal programme must cover/assess both skill and knowledge and be mapped to all of the renewal specification (see Renewal Scheme Specification, Appendix B). The range of individuals' skills needs to be confirmed through a demonstration of practical climbing and rescue techniques.

Those individuals attending renewal training programmes must sign a declaration of medical fitness to work at height prior to the course. Individuals must have previously undertaken a MATS Basic Tower Climbing & Rescue scheme approved training programme and been registered on EUSR in the last 12 months prior to attending a renewal course.

Any individual that has been out of the industry for 12 months or more, or whose EUSR registration has expired for more than 12 months, must complete, and pass the full 3-day initial training programme.



Approved Providers will submit individuals' renewal registrations through QuartzWeb.

#### 2.4.5.2 Assessment Attempts

**3-day initial programme** – Where an individual has failed either the knowledge and/or the practical skills assessment, they are permitted to make a second attempt. Where the individual fails the second theory and/or practical assessment attempt they will not be able to proceed with registration without seeking approval from their employer to make a third attempt.

**1-day renewal programme** – If an individual has failed either the knowledge and/or the practical skills assessment, they will need to take and pass the 1-day renewal course again. Where the individual fails the second theory and/or practical assessment attempt they will no longer be able to proceed with registration on the MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue Scheme until they have completed and passed the full 3-day initial programme.

#### 2.4.5.3 Assessment only programmes

Approved Providers should note that it is not permitted to deliver assessment only programmes for this scheme.

## 2.5 EUSR Registration

Individuals who are at least 18 years old, who have declared by signature that they have undertaken and passed a suitable fitness assessment/ medical for climbing and working at height, and have passed either an approved, minimum 3 consecutive day, MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue training programme, or the 1 day renewal training programme (where renewal only is permitted), will be registered on EUSR against the scheme for a period of 1 year.

Renewal must be undertaken annually by individuals to maintain an EUSR registration for the MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue scheme.

At the end of the 1 year registration period an individual's EUSR registration will expire and automatically be removed from the online register. Individuals should renew their registration prior to expiry to maintain registration, but have a period of 12 months, from the expiry date, to successfully complete the renewal training and assessment programme.

Individuals whose EUSR registration has expired for more than 12 months must complete and pass the 3-day Initial training and assessment programme before being registered for the scheme.

Approved Providers will submit individuals for registration through the Energy & Utility Skills Group QuartzWeb registration platform.

All EUSR registrations are issued with a virtual card.

Individuals download an app called Vircarda to their smartphone or tablet which displays a digital EUSR card. This digital card can be scanned by a checking app on site which allows the card to be read without any manual input. An individual's details can also be checked by entering them on the EUSR register search, available 24/7, on our website.

If individuals still want or need a plastic card in addition to the Virtual card, they can request a plastic smart card (which contains a chip that is readable by a checking app) for an additional fee. Current prices can be found on our website via the following link

[www.eusr.co.uk/approval-and-delivery/pricelist](http://www.eusr.co.uk/approval-and-delivery/pricelist).

## 2.6 Policies

The following policies are provided and set our approach towards some key areas within training delivery, and assessment. These policies can be access via the following link -

<https://www.eusr.co.uk/approval-and-delivery/quality-framework-policies/>

## 2.7 On-going monitoring and audits of MATS Basic Tower Climbing & Rescue training programmes

All Mast and Tower Safety training programmes that are approved by Energy & Utility Skills Group are subject to our on-going quality assurance monitoring which includes regular audits.

We use our Quality Framework to support our monitoring and audits. We audit all of our training providers at least every 12 months, sometimes more often if we deem them or the training programmes they offer to be of a 'higher risk'. To keep this as easy and efficient as possible, supporting evidence for our audits can be provided in a variety of ways e.g. electronic or photographic. The 'high risk' nature of this programme means that the advice of technical experts will be sought in order to safeguard programme quality and integrity.

## 3. Part B: Approval Guidance & Criteria

In order to have your training programme approved by Energy & Utility Skills Group for the Mast and Tower Safety (MATS): Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue Scheme, there are a number of requirements that you need to meet:

- 1) **You will need to be approved as a provider.** The Quality Framework – which sits at the heart of Provider Approval - sets the minimum criteria for learning and development practices, and links into the Training Programme Approval process.
- 2) **You will need to meet the generic training programme criteria for an approved skills-based programme.** These are the general requirements that any approved training programme must meet. These are listed on pages 18-20.
- 3) **You will need to meet the requirements of the MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue-specific programme criteria.** Training and assessment programmes must be mapped to these unit standards, and then they are approved for delivery by Energy & Utility Skills Group, as well as resources, delivery plans and internal quality assurance processes. These are listed on pages 21-28.

### 3.1 Approval

Sometimes Provider Approval can be carried out at the same time as the approval of a training programme. If you are not yet an approved Energy & Utility Skills Group training provider, then you should visit the Energy & Utility Skills Group ([www.euskills.co.uk](http://www.euskills.co.uk)) to find out further details.

#### 3.1.1 Training Provider Approval Process

Provider Approval is quick and easy. Our Quality team are on hand to offer advice and guidance throughout the whole process:

- Step 1 – complete and submit a Provider Approval Self-Assessment Report (SAR) by emailing us at [quality@euskills.co.uk](mailto:quality@euskills.co.uk).
- Step 2 – we review and come back with any requests for additional information or evidence.
- Step 3 – we visit you.
- Step 4 – we provide you with a written report of our visit findings – which may include some actions.
- Step 5 – you sign our provider agreement.
- Step 6 – your approval is confirmed, and we issue you with a certificate of approval.

Provider Approval is a once only activity. Approval is maintained through on-going monitoring and auditing, as an Approved Provider we will visit you a minimum of once every 12 months. When you are approved, you can submit your training programme(s) for approval.

Once you have read through our Quality Framework, contact us for a Provider Approval Self-Assessment Report to start you on your approval journey. Once approved, we can list your details on both the [Energy & Utility Skills Group](#) website and the EUSR website. You can use our Approved Provider logo in your promotional material and website, and also come along to our [CPD events](#).

### 3.1.2 MATS Programme Approval Process

The flow chart below summarises the process for Programme Approval:



The SAR sections to be completed by you start on page 29.

In more detail, the approval process requires that you:

- Read and understand fully the Scheme Handbook and ensure that your MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue training programme is fully compliant with Energy & Utility Skills Group criteria.
- Read and understand fully the generic training programme criteria and ensure that your MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue training programme is fully compliant with these requirements.

- Read and understand fully the MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue-specific training programme criteria which relate to your programme(s) and ensure that your programme(s) fully meets the criteria and these standards. All programmes approved under the MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue scheme must fully align with these requirements.
- There is a mapping template available within [Appendices A & B](#) which you can use to support this activity. Use of this template, however, is not mandatory. Whatever form of template is used, it is requested that, as a minimum, it includes **clear** and **specific** reference to the location of the evidence that meets each of the **individual criteria**. If this is not clear, the submission will be rejected. If you would like advice and guidance on any aspect of mapping your training programme to the standards, our Quality team can provide you with examples of mapping documentation, email [quality@euskills.co.uk](mailto:quality@euskills.co.uk).
- In addition to mapping your programme to the MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue requirements, it is important that you submit examples of relevant supporting evidence, e.g. delivery plans, lesson plans, activity materials, assessment materials etc. Contact the Quality team who can help you with identifying the best ways to support your submission with scheme documentation.
- Using the checklist provided, ensure that you have met all criteria before submitting the training programme(s) for approval.
- A signature from an individual with appropriate authority in your organisation (i.e. your Head of Centre – usually a director, senior manager) is required to confirm that a thorough and honest self-assessment has taken place and that all requirements have been fully met.



## 3.2 MATS Basic Tower Climbing & Rescue generic training programme criteria

The criteria below outline the type of information we will require to support your application to have your MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue training programme approved by Energy & Utility Skills Group.

Evidence Requirement	Supporting information
1. Qualifications, CVs and CPD - for all staff involved in the training programme design and delivery (e.g. trainers, assessors, internal quality assurers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CVs – occupational competence – a minimum of 2 years</li> <li>• CPD – evidence of ongoing CPD</li> </ul>
2. Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mapping to industry standards, qualifications, apprenticeships, or Energy &amp; Utility Skills Group schemes</li> <li>• Learning outcomes are clearly stated with clear aims and objectives</li> <li>• Duration of the training programme</li> <li>• Description of an average/typical individual attending the training programme</li> <li>• Structure of training programme including any Rules of Combination, barring of modules etc.</li> <li>• Recognition of Learning or Accreditation of Prior Learning process</li> <li>• Reasonable adjustments and special consideration process</li> <li>• Schemes of work and/or lesson plans</li> </ul>

<p>3. Lesson Delivery</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery methodologies</li> <li>• Delivery timetables</li> <li>• Delivery support materials, resources, and activities – for trainers and learners</li> <li>• Mapping to relevant industry standards, qualifications, Energy &amp; Utility Skills Group Schemes or apprenticeships</li> <li>• Mapping of delivery materials to learning outcomes</li> <li>• Mapping of assessment materials to delivery materials</li> <li>• Methodologies and materials used to deliver programmes</li> </ul>
<p>4. Information, advice, and guidance to support individuals</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information, advice, and guidance for prospective learners (marketing material, website, leaflets, helplines, joining instructions)</li> <li>• Pre-training programme information availability e.g. joining instructions containing information on the programme including learning aims, objectives and outcomes, programme overview, costs, pre-requisites such as competence or knowledge, logistics such as venue, timings, catering, dress code, PPE requirements etc.</li> <li>• Information for current individuals (e.g. specification, handbook, manual, industry standards, working practices, print-out of slides, workbooks, suggested additional reading lists, suggested additional activities or exercises, case studies)</li> <li>• Advice and guidance for current individuals (e.g. support mechanisms in place, specialist support availability, progression information, careers advice)</li> </ul>
<p>5. Assessment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment methodologies</li> <li>• Assessment mark schemes/guides</li> <li>• Assessment plans/evidence matrices</li> <li>• Assessor written evidence/IQA written plans</li> <li>• Assessment feedback</li> </ul>

6. Internal Quality Assurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IQA methodology (minimum requirements for assuring quality of delivery and assessment)</li> <li>• Sampling plan</li> <li>• Processes, policies, proformas, templates, and records</li> <li>• Standardisation processes</li> <li>• Invigilation process (if appropriate)</li> </ul>
7. Feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation mechanism</li> <li>• 360 feedback loop</li> </ul>
8. Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular and appropriate review of the training programme including support materials</li> <li>• Lessons learned/actions</li> </ul>

### 3.3 MATS Basic Tower Climbing & Rescue-specific training programme criteria

The list below outlines the MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue specific training programme criteria that Training and Assessment programmes must be aligned to. Each criterion listed is then described in more detail below and sets out the information we will require to support your application to have your Mast and Tower Safety training programme approved by Energy & Utility Skills Group.

Specific Mast and Tower Safety (MATS) Basic Tower Climbing & Rescue Scheme Criteria	
Scheme specification	Your training programme must demonstrate complete alignment to the MATS Basic Tower Climbing and rescue scheme(s) criteria, for both initial training and renewal, with demonstrable systems for ensuring continued compliance. See mapping documents <a href="#">Appendices A &amp; B</a> .
	The relevant specification(s) for the categories being submitted for approval must be integrated into the learning, development, and assessment process.
On-site requirements	You must be able to provide the appropriate on-site resources required for training delivery and assessment.
Practical facilities	<p>You must have or have legal access to the required practical training facilities and have the required documentation in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal right to use facilities</li> <li>• Adequate insurance cover</li> <li>• Risk Assessments</li> </ul>

<b>Equipment</b>	You must have the appropriate equipment for training delivery and assessment, where specified.
<b>Trainer, Assessor &amp; Assurance</b>	Your Trainer(s), Assessor(s) and Internal quality assurance staff must have the occupational experience and qualifications required for delivery and assessment of the MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue training programme.
<b>Trainer &amp; individual ratio</b>	You must comply with the Trainer/individual ratios specified for the delivery and assessment of the programme.
<b>Programme structure</b>	<p>Your training programme must adhere to the programme structures for both the initial programme and renewal programme and specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 'live' climbing exercise must be integrated and conducted as a mandatory part of the assessment for both the initial and renewal programmes</li> <li>• A 'live' rescue exercise must be integrated and conducted as a mandatory part of the assessment for both the initial and renewal programmes</li> </ul>
<b>Pre-requisites</b>	You must have in place a system for confirming pre-requisite requirements have been achieved prior to course delivery or assessment.
<b>Assessments</b>	Your training programme must demonstrate complete alignment to the assessment criteria, where appropriate.
<b>Renewal Assessment Attempts</b>	You must ensure that your training and assessment programmes for both Initial training and Renewal comply with the Renewal/ Assessment Attempts and Assessment only criteria.
<b>Registration</b>	You must have the systems and documentation to demonstrate that you comply with the Registration criteria.

## 3.4 MATS Basic Tower Climbing & Rescue-specific training facility requirements

### 3.4.1 On-site requirements

The below list of requirements must be available and present during all training courses. It is the responsibility of the approved training provider to ensure that the training requirements are met prior to commencing any training or testing on the equipment.

Site Requirement	Description	Mandatory / Optional
Knowledge Training	<p>A training or meeting room is required for the delivery and assessment of knowledge and understanding and to complete paperwork. The accommodation should provide an environment which is conducive to learning. The room should have heating and lighting, and preferably natural light. It should meet health and safety requirements. There should be sufficient seating and table space for each participant, which should also allow participants to take an assessment in exam conditions.</p> <p>The room should contain teaching aids such as blackboard/ whiteboard/ flipchart and projector screen to support learning.</p>	Mandatory
Delegate Breaks & Welfare Facilities	Toilet and welfare facilities which allow for privacy and dignity of individuals should be provided for the use of participants during the training programme. This should include changing facilities, toilets, and hot water for washing and cleaning after training activity. There should be provision for delegates to make hot drinks and heat food. There should be an area which is suitable for food consumption and rest.	Mandatory
Personal Protective Equipment	Prior to any training all participants and instructors/assessors must have the relevant and appropriate PPE. Training providers need to make the necessary provision for this.	Mandatory



Risk Assessment	A written risk assessment of suitability to undertake training must be completed by the instructor or assessor prior to any training course being delivered.	Mandatory
Equipment	See equipment section 4.3	Mandatory
Area	Suitable area and facilities/ towers for conducting a realistic climb and rescue exercise. See practical training facilities	Mandatory

### 3.4.2 Equipment

The following equipment is required to meet the needs of providing the training for the initial basic tower climbing and rescue programme, as well as the renewal programme.

Mast or Tower	A mast or tower structure not less than 10m in height must be available. <b>Refer to section 2.3.2.</b>
Harness	Harness, according to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EN361:2002 (Personal protective equipment against falls from a height - Full body harnesses)</li> <li>• EN358:2018 (Personal protective equipment for work positioning and prevention of falls from a height - Belts for work positioning and restraint and work positioning lanyards)</li> </ul>
Work restraint lanyards	Work restraint lanyards, according to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EN358:2018 (Personal protective equipment for work positioning and prevention of falls from a height - Belts for work positioning and restraint and work positioning lanyards) or</li> <li>• EN354:2010 (Personal fall protection equipment – Lanyards)</li> </ul>
Fall arrest	Fall arrest, according to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EN355:2002 (Personal protective equipment against falls from a height - Energy absorbers)</li> </ul>
Helmets	Helmets, according to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EN397 + A1:2012 (Industrial safety helmets) and EN12492:2012 – specification for climbers' helmets</li> </ul>

Vertical fall arrest system	Vertical fall arrest system, according to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EN353-1:2014 (Personal fall protection equipment - Guided type fall arresters including an anchor line - Part 1: Guided type fall arresters including a rigid anchor line)</li> </ul>
Vertical fall arrest system	Vertical fall arrest system, according to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EN353-2:2002 (Personal protective equipment against falls from height - Part 2: Guided type fall arresters, including flexible anchor lines)</li> <li>EN1891:1998 (Personal protective equipment for the prevention of falls from height - Low stretch kern mantel ropes), or</li> <li>EN892:2012 (Mountaineering equipment - Dynamic mountaineering ropes - Safety requirements and test methods)</li> <li>EN363:2018 – personal fall protection equipment -personal fall protection systems</li> <li>BS8437:2005 – code of practice for selection, use and maintenance of personal fall protection systems and equipment for use in the workplace</li> </ul>
Self-retractable lifeline	Self-Retractable Lifeline (SRL), according to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EN360:2002 (Personal protective equipment against falls from a height – Retractable type fall arresters)</li> </ul>
Anchor points	Anchor points, according to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EN795:2012 (Personal fall protection equipment - Anchor devices)</li> </ul>
Footwear	Safety footwear – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EN ISO 20345</li> </ul>
Rope	Low stretch kernmantle (or similar) rope
Decent devices	Descent devices
Secondary devices	Secondary devices such as retractable lines or a second rope including suitable backup device
Other	Rescue dummy

### 3.4.3 Trainer, Assessor and Quality Assurance requirements

This section outlines the expectations placed on those involved in the delivery and assessment of the MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue scheme. All Trainers, Assessors and Quality Assurance staff must adhere to the requirements, policies and procedures outlined within the Scheme and have the following occupational experience and qualifications.

	Description	Mandatory / Optional
Occupational Experience/ Competence	<p>As a minimum, all Trainers, Assessors and Quality Assurance staff must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have a comprehensive understanding of the requirements of the scheme</li> <li>• Have knowledge of the telecommunications and broadcast industries</li> <li>• Have detailed knowledge of the work at height regulations 2005</li> <li>• Have practical experience of working at height on masts and towers for a minimum of two years, e.g. supervising or managing work on towers or masts</li> <li>• Be trained and competent in the area of mast and tower safety (e.g. climbing and rescue, in which they are providing instruction)</li> <li>• Within 12 months of receiving provider approval, hold EUSR registration for the MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue Scheme</li> <li>• Have undertaken a health and safety training programme such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy &amp; Utility Skills Group SHEA</li> <li>• CITB Site Management Safety Training Scheme</li> <li>• Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH) Managing Safely</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Mandatory

	Description	Mandatory / Optional
<b>Trainer Requirements</b>	<p>In addition to the Occupational Experience/ Competence, all Trainers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold a recognised teaching/ training qualification such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certificate in Training Practice</li> <li>• PTTLS/Award in Education and Training</li> <li>• TAP Certificate</li> <li>• TQFE teaching qualification for further education</li> <li>• NVQ level 3 or 4 in learning and development</li> <li>• Cert Ed/ PGCE</li> <li>• City &amp; Guilds Level 3 Award in Planning and Delivering Training (6258-33, 40 hrs TQT)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Subject to approval, other comparable qualifications, in-house courses, and individuals who can demonstrate significant and long-standing occupational training experience</li> <li>• Trainers undertaking a teaching/ training qualification must ensure that they have a clear achievement date and must be able to demonstrate that they are supported in delivery</li> <li>• Be a qualified First Aider or ensure that a First Aider is present throughout the training</li> </ul>	Mandatory
<b>Assessor Requirements</b>	<p>As a minimum, those involved in assessment must have the above listed occupational experience / competence and:</p> <p>Hold a recognised Assessor qualification such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Level 3 Certificate in Assessing Vocational Achievement</li> <li>• Level 3 Award in Assessing Competence in the Work Environment</li> <li>• Working towards one of the above and have a qualified Assessor countersign their assessment decisions</li> </ul> <p>OR</p> <p>Hold one of the predecessor qualifications, which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A1 Assess candidates using a range of methods</li> </ul>	Mandatory

	Description	Mandatory / Optional
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A2 Award in Assessing Candidates Performance through observation</li> <li>• D32/33 Assess candidate performance, using differing sources of evidence</li> <li>• OCR Assessing Vocational Achievement</li> </ul> <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be a qualified First Aider or ensure that a First Aider is present throughout the assessment</li> </ul>	
Quality Assurance Requirements	<p>Those involved in the quality assurance of the programme must meet the occupational experience listed above and hold at least one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Level 4 Award in the External Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice</li> <li>• Level 4 Award in Understanding the External Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice</li> <li>• Level 4 Certificate in Leading the External Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice</li> <li>• Level 4 Award in Understanding the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice</li> <li>• Level 4 Award in the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice</li> <li>• Level 4 Certificate in Leading the Internal Quality Assurance of Assessment Processes and Practice</li> <li>• V1 for Internal Verifiers</li> <li>• V2 for External Verifiers</li> <li>• Recognised alternative to V1 or V2 (e.g. D34/D35)</li> </ul> <p>There should be named individual/(s) responsible for the on-going quality assurance in relation to all aspects of the scheme.</p>	

## 4. Part C: The Self-Assessment Report

In this section, you must detail information relating to your Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue training programme. This SAR must be fully completed and be submitted with the mapping of your programme(s).

### 4.1 Training programme information

Please complete the fields below so that we have full details of your programme(s):

Organisation Name	Click here to enter text.
Named contact	Click here to enter text.
Contact details (telephone and email)	Click here to enter text.
Address	Click here to enter text.
Training programme title	Click here to enter text.
Link to any Energy & Utility Skills Group Schemes - if so, mapping needs to be provided	Click here to enter text.
Is there a renewal or end date?	Click here to enter text.



## 4.2 Criteria and evidence checklist

This part of the SAR must accompany your mapping of your training programme against the relevant criteria and specifications and confirms that you have fully completed the approval submission process.

Criteria and Evidence Checklist		
<b>MA1</b>	Your training programme demonstrates complete alignment to the MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue scheme(s) criteria, for both initial training and renewal, with demonstrable systems for ensuring continued compliance. See mapping documents <a href="#">Appendices A &amp; B</a> .	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MA2</b>	The relevant specification(s) for the categories being submitted for have been integrated into the learning, development, and assessment process.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MA3</b>	You have demonstrated that you have the on-site resources required for training delivery and assessment of the programme.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MA4</b>	<p>You have demonstrated that you are able to provide the practical training facilities required and have the following supporting documentation in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal right to use facilities</li> <li>• Adequate insurance cover</li> <li>• Risk Assessments</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MA5</b>	You have demonstrated that you have the required climbing and rescue specific equipment for training delivery and assessment, where specified.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MA6</b>	You have demonstrated that your Trainer(s), Assessor(s), and Internal quality assurance staff have the occupational experience and competence required for delivery and assessment of the MATS Basic Tower Climbing and Rescue training programme.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MA7</b>	You have demonstrated how you comply with the Trainer /individual ratio requirements.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MA8</b>	<p>Your training programme adheres to the programme structure for both the initial programme and renewal programme and specifically demonstrates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 'live' climbing exercise is integrated and conducted as a mandatory part of the assessment for both the initial and renewal programmes</li> <li>• A 'live' rescue exercise is integrated and conducted as a mandatory part of the assessment for both the initial and renewal programmes</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>MA9</b>	You have demonstrated your systems for confirming pre-requisite requirements have been achieved prior to course delivery or assessment.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MA10</b>	Your training programme demonstrates complete alignment to the learning outcomes and assessment criteria, where appropriate.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MA11</b>	You have demonstrated how both your Initial and Renewal training programmes comply with the Renewal/ Assessment Attempts and Assessment only criteria.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MA12</b>	You have demonstrated how you comply with the Registration requirements.	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 4.3 Named person declaration

This section confirms that a senior member of your organisation has reviewed the submission and agrees that the submission represents a thorough and honest self-assessment of the programme(s). It also confirms that the submission meets the full requirements of the scheme.

I confirm that **[Company Name]** has conducted a thorough and honest self-assessment of the **[insert Programme Title]** and that it meets all the criteria specified within the Mast and Tower Safety SAR.

I understand that the Energy & Utility Skills Group reserves the right to seek further verification of the product described as part of the application and ongoing monitoring process in order to preserve the integrity of the product approval process and understand that any inconsistencies and suspected deception may put the approval status at risk.

I understand and confirm that all learners who attend this programme will be registered with EUSR, as stated within the overarching conditions, and that each registration will be charged at the rate published on the EUSR website, unless otherwise agreed and confirmed in writing.

Name			
Job Title			
Company Address			
Telephone no			
Email address			
Signature		Date	Click here to enter text.

#### 4.4 APPENDIX A: MATS Basic Tower Climbing & Rescue Scheme Initial Programme - Mapping Document

	Performance Criteria	Location in Submission	Verified
	<b>Unit 1 - Understanding legislation and safety standards</b>		
1.1	Know the national legislation relevant to Working at Height		
1.2	Know the legislation relevant to equipment inspection		
1.3	Know the industry medical and fitness requirements for working at height on masts and towers		
1.4	Know the industry (MATS) agreed rules and expectations for climbing and work at height as detailed in GN-012		
1.5	Know the minimum numbers of climbers and qualified rescuers required in different scenarios and the rationale		
	<b>Unit 2 - Assessing risk</b>		
2.1	Know the 5 steps required to carry out a risk assessment		
2.2	Know the requirements of the work at height hierarchy and how to apply them		
2.3	Know how to plan for a rescue when carrying out risk assessment		

	Performance Criteria	Location in Submission	Verified
2.4	Know the relevant documentation that must be in place prior to working at height		
2.5	Know the importance of visual inspection of the structure prior to, and during, work at height activities		
2.6	Demonstrate how to carry out a site-specific risk assessment for a task or activity that involves climbing a mast or tower		
<b>Unit 3 - Managing common hazards</b>			
3.1	Know the possible effects of falling from height on equipment		
3.2	Know the control measures that can be put in place to reduce the risk of falling		
3.3	Know the threat from possible falling objects		
3.4	Know the control measures that can be put in place to reduce the hazard from falling objects		
3.5	Know the potential hazards from weather and exposure and how to minimise them		
3.6	Know the possible chemical and biological hazards associated with masts and towers and how to mitigate them		
3.7	Know the possible hazards associated with wild birds' nests and how to mitigate them		

	Performance Criteria	Location in Submission	Verified
3.8	Know other common hazards associated with working at height and how to mitigate them		
<b>Unit 4 - Using harnesses</b>			
4.1	Know the industry guidance on the frequency and type of inspection required of personal fall protection equipment		
4.2	Know the content of documentation that should accompany a harness and other fall protection equipment		
4.3	Know how to store, clean, and maintain climbing harnesses		
4.4	Demonstrate how to inspect harnesses and fall protection equipment for safe use in line with guidance		
4.5	Demonstrate how to correctly fit a harness in line with manufacturer's instructions and/or industry guidance		
<b>Unit 5 - Using fall arrest lanyards</b>			
5.1	Know the legal requirements affecting the use of fall arrest lanyards when working at height		
5.2	Know how to identify if PFPE has been involved in a fall incident		
5.3	Know the difference between a twin fall arrest lanyard and a single fall arrest lanyard		



	Performance Criteria	Location in Submission	Verified
5.4	Know how to conduct a user inspection, in line with manufacturer's instructions		
5.5	Know how to take fall factors and minimum clearance distances into account when using lanyards		
5.6	Demonstrate how to correctly attach fall arrest systems to a harness		
5.7	Demonstrate how to correctly apply lanyard hooks		
5.8	Demonstrate how to park double lanyard hooks so as not to bypass the absorber device		
5.9	Demonstrate how to apply hooks at a suitable height to minimise fall factors		
5.10	Demonstrate how to use fall arrest lanyards appropriately when the steelwork is too large for lanyard hooks		
<b>Unit 6 - Selecting appropriate anchor points</b>			
6.1	Know how to select an anchor point which can take the loads that will be applied to it		
6.2	Know the type of anchor points which would be unsafe		
6.3	Know the different places that anchor points can be situated		
6.4	Demonstrate how to protect lanyards, slings, and ropes from sharp edges		

	Performance Criteria	Location in Submission	Verified
	<b>Unit 7 - Using fixed fall arrest systems</b>		
7.1	Know the legal requirements affecting the use of fixed fall arrest systems when working at height		
7.2	Know how the hierarchical approach applies to fixed fall arrest systems when working at height		
7.3	Know how and when to inspect trolleys and fixed systems		
7.4	Know how to store, clean, and maintain fall arrest systems		
7.5	Demonstrate how to use different types of fixed fall arrest systems safely and correctly		
	<b>Unit 8 - Using work positioning lanyards</b>		
8.1	Demonstrate how to attach a lanyard correctly to a ladder or steelwork system		
8.2	Demonstrate how to lean back and trust the work positioning lanyard leaving hands-free		
8.3	Demonstrate how a fall arrest system is used in addition to the work positioning lanyard		
8.4	Demonstrate how to attach a work positioning lanyard correctly to the harness		
8.5	Demonstrate how to inspect work positioning lanyard equipment		
	<b>Unit 9 - Using additional fall prevention equipment</b>		

	Performance Criteria	Location in Submission	Verified
9.1	Know when and where additional fall protection equipment will be required for safe working at height		
9.2	Know how to inspect additional fall protection equipment and identify any safety issues before use		
9.3	Demonstrate how to safely use a range of equipment		
<b>Unit 10 - Developing rescue plans</b>			
10.1	Know the importance of having detailed knowledge of the site where work is taking place		
10.2	Know the potential pitfalls associated with reliance on post codes		
10.3	Know the level of competence of others who may need to participate in a rescue		
10.4	Know the importance of the ability to communicate appropriately in rescue situations		
10.5	Know the types of rescue situations when radio communications may need to be used		
10.6	Know the importance of having suitably trained First Aiders in attendance when people are working at height		
10.7	Know the reasons why all potential rescuers need to be familiar with the specific rescue equipment provided		

	Performance Criteria	Location in Submission	Verified
10.8	Know the importance of having a suitably equipped rescue kit readily available		
	<b>Unit 11 - Inspecting rescue equipment</b>		
11.1	Know the importance of record keeping when carrying out inspections		
11.2	Know why rescue kit components should not be used for other activities		
11.3	Know the range of different inspection methods		
11.4	Know the common inspection issues		
	<b>Unit 12 – Managing suspension syncope</b>		
12.1	Know the causes of suspension syncope		
12.2	Know the symptoms of suspension syncope		
12.3	Know how to minimise fall factors		
12.4	Know the factors which ensure a good fitting climbing harness		
12.5	Know the techniques that can be used to alleviate the onset of suspension syncope		
12.6	Know the temporary aids which can be used to alleviate the onset of suspension syncope		

	Performance Criteria	Location in Submission	Verified
12.7	Know how to position a casualty correctly when they are evacuated to ground level		
12.8	Know how to provide care for a casualty after rescue		
12.9	Know how to handover a casualty to a first aider or emergency services		
12.10	Know the risk factors for potential venous pooling		
12.11	Know how to prevent venous pooling		
<b>Unit 13 - Selecting rescue techniques</b>			
13.1	Know how to minimise risks to personal safety in a rescue situation		
13.2	Know the general rescue hierarchy		
13.3	Know the circumstances in which a casualty may be self-rescued with the possible assistance of a rescuer		
13.4	Know when the remote lowering of a casualty by a rescuer may be appropriate		
13.5	Know when a “snatch” or “pick off” rescue of a casualty may be appropriate		
13.6	Know the role of the emergency services in relation to industrial rescue		

<b>Unit 14 - Using knots and “off-weighting” techniques</b>			
<b>14.1</b>	Know the different type of knots used, the appropriate circumstances for their use and how to tie them ready for use		
<b>14.2</b>	Know the reasons for using “off-weighting” techniques when transferring a suspended casualty		
<b>14.3</b>	Know the risks associated with using knives or other cutting implements in a rescue situation		
<b>Unit 15 - Demonstrating climbing techniques</b>			
<b>15.1</b>	Demonstrate the establishment of an appropriate exclusion zone/drop zone		
<b>15.2</b>	Demonstrate how to attach to fixed fall systems correctly		
<b>15.3</b>	Demonstrate correct use of fixed fall systems		
<b>15.4</b>	Demonstrate a fluid climbing technique on the ladder		
<b>15.5</b>	Demonstrate an ability to move around the external face of a structure whilst attached		
<b>15.6</b>	Demonstrate the ability to put full weight on the work positioning system		
<b>15.7</b>	Demonstrate confidence when working and moving at height		



<b>15.8</b>	Demonstrate how to safely <b><u>ascend</u></b> away from the ladder whilst maintaining permanent attachment		
<b>15.9</b>	Demonstrate how to safely <b><u>descend</u></b> away from the ladder whilst maintaining permanent attachment		
<b>15.10</b>	Demonstrate how to safely maintain permanent attachment when moving around and working		
<b>15.11</b>	Demonstrate how to consistently select robust anchor points		
<b>15.12</b>	Demonstrate how to use fall protection equipment appropriately when the steelwork is too large for lanyard hooks		
<b>15.13</b>	Demonstrate the appropriate use of knots		
<b>Unit 16 – Carrying out a rescue</b>			
<b>16.1</b>	Demonstrate self-rescue		
<b>16.2</b>	Demonstrate how to remotely lower a casualty		
<b>16.3</b>	Demonstrate a ‘snatch’ or ‘pick-off’ rescue of a casualty		
<b>16.4</b>	Demonstrate using an appropriate off-weighting system to remove the casualty from the fall arrest device		
<b>16.5</b>	Demonstrate how to tie a range of knots		

## 4.5 APPENDIX B: MATS Basic Tower Climbing & Rescue Scheme Renewal Programme - Mapping Document

	Performance Criteria	Location in Submission	Verified
	<b>Unit R1 - Understanding legislation and safety standards</b>		
<b>R1.1</b>	Know the national legislation relevant to working at height		
<b>R1.2</b>	Know the industry medical and fitness requirements for working at height on masts and towers		
	<b>Unit R2: Inspecting and fitting Personal Fall Protection Equipment (PFPE)</b>		
<b>R2.1</b>	Know how to inspect PFPE for any defects		
<b>R2.2</b>	Identify defects in a range of PFPE		
<b>R2.3</b>	Demonstrate how to correctly fit a harness		
	<b>Unit R3 - Using fall arrest lanyards</b>		
<b>R3.1</b>	Demonstrate how to correctly attach fall arrest systems to a harness		
<b>R3.2</b>	Demonstrate how to correctly apply lanyard hooks		

	Performance Criteria	Location in Submission	Verified
<b>R3.3</b>	Demonstrate how to park double lanyard hooks so as not to bypass the absorber device		
<b>R3.4</b>	Demonstrate how to apply hooks at a suitable height to minimise fall factors		
<b>R3.5</b>	Demonstrate how to use fall arrest lanyards appropriately when the steelwork is too large for lanyard hooks		
<b>Unit R4 - Selecting appropriate anchor points</b>			
<b>R4.1</b>	Know how to select an anchor point which can support the loads that will be applied to it		
<b>R4.2</b>	Know the type of anchor points which would be unsafe		
<b>R4.3</b>	Demonstrate how to select an appropriate anchor point which provides an unhindered (as far as possible) path to the ground when conducting a rescue		
<b>R4.4</b>	Demonstrate how to select an anchor point which provides the rescuer with a safe working position from which to operate the descender (where a remote lower is used)		
<b>R4.5</b>	Demonstrate how to protect lanyards, slings, and rescue ropes from sharp edges		
<b>Unit R5 - Using fixed fall arrest systems</b>			
<b>R5.1</b>	Demonstrate the safe and correct use of fixed fall systems		

	Performance Criteria	Location in Submission	Verified
	<b>Unit R6 - Using work positioning lanyards</b>		
<b>R6.1</b>	Demonstrate how to attach a lanyard correctly to the ladder or steelwork system		
<b>R6.2</b>	Demonstrate how a fall arrest system is used in addition to the work positioning lanyard		
<b>R6.3</b>	Demonstrate how to attach a work positioning lanyard correctly to the harness		
<b>R6.4</b>	Demonstrate how to lean back and trust the work positioning lanyard leaving hands-free		
	<b>Unit R7 - Using additional fall prevention equipment</b>		
<b>R7.1</b>	Know when and where additional fall protection equipment will be required for safe working at height		
<b>R7.2</b>	Demonstrate how to safely use a range of equipment		
<b>R7.3</b>	Demonstrate how to inspect additional fall protection equipment and identify any safety issues before use		
	<b>Unit R8 - Developing rescue plans</b>		
<b>R8.1</b>	Know the importance of having detailed knowledge of the site where work is taking place		
<b>R8.2</b>	Know the potential pitfalls associated with reliance on postcodes		

	Performance Criteria	Location in Submission	Verified
<b>R8.3</b>	Know the level of competence of others who may need to participate in a rescue		
<b>R8.4</b>	Know the types of rescue situations when radio communications may need to be used		
<b>R8.5</b>	Know the importance of having suitably trained First Aiders in attendance when people are working at height		
<b>R8.6</b>	Know the reasons why all potential rescuers need to be familiar with the specific rescue equipment provided		
<b>R8.7</b>	Know the importance of having a suitably equipped rescue kit readily available		
<b>R8.8</b>	Demonstrate the ability to communicate appropriately in rescue situations		
<b>Unit R9 – Managing suspension syncope</b>			
<b>R9.1</b>	Know the causes of suspension syncope		
<b>R9.2</b>	Know the symptoms of suspension syncope		
<b>R9.3</b>	Know how to minimise fall factors		
<b>R9.4</b>	Know the factors which ensure a good fitting climbing harness		
<b>R9.5</b>	Know the techniques that can be used to alleviate the onset of suspension syncope		

	Performance Criteria	Location in Submission	Verified
<b>R9.6</b>	Know the temporary aids which can be used to alleviate the onset of suspension syncope		
<b>R9.7</b>	Know how to position a casualty correctly when they are evacuated to ground level		
<b>R9.8</b>	Know how to care for a casualty after rescue		
<b>R9.9</b>	Know how to handover a casualty to a first aider or emergency services		
<b>R9.10</b>	Know the risk factors for potential venous pooling		
<b>R9.11</b>	Know how to prevent venous pooling		
	<b>Unit R10 - Selecting rescue techniques</b>		
<b>R10.1</b>	Know how to minimise risks to personal safety in a rescue situation		
<b>R10.2</b>	Know the general rescue hierarchy		
<b>R10.3</b>	Know the circumstances in which a casualty may be self-rescued with the possible assistance of a rescuer		
<b>R10.4</b>	Know when the remote lowering of a casualty by a rescuer may be appropriate		
<b>R10.5</b>	Know when a “snatch” or “pick off” rescue of a casualty may be appropriate		



	Performance Criteria	Location in Submission	Verified
R10.6	Know the role of the emergency services in relation to industrial rescue		
	<b>Unit R11 - Using “off-weighting” techniques</b>		
R11.1	Know the reasons for using mechanical aids when transferring a suspended casualty		
R11.2	Know the risks associated with using knives or other cutting implements in a rescue situation		
	<b>Unit R12 - Demonstrating climbing techniques</b>		
R12.1	Demonstrate a fluid climbing technique on the ladder		
R12.2	Demonstrate how to safely <b><u>ascend</u></b> away from the ladder whilst maintaining permanent attachment		
R12.3	Demonstrate how to safely <b><u>descend</u></b> away from the ladder whilst maintaining permanent attachment		
	<b>Unit R13 - Carrying out a rescue</b>		
R13.1	Demonstrate self-rescue		
R13.2	Demonstrate how to remotely lower a casualty		

	Performance Criteria	Location in Submission	Verified
<b>R13.3</b>	Demonstrate a “snatch” or “pick off” rescue of a casualty		
<b>R13.4</b>	Demonstrate using an off-weighting device to remove the casualty from the fall arrest device		
<b>R13.5</b>	Demonstrate how to tie a range of common knots used in work at height procedures		