

# AWARD IN UNDERSTANDING DOMESTIC RETROFIT

National Open College Network (NOCN)  
at Level 2

Qualification Specification  
Version 1  
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# Contents

1. ABOUT THE VERDANCY GROUP AND NOCN.....	3
2. QUALIFICATION OVERVIEW .....	3
3. QUALIFICATION DURATION .....	3
4. WHO IS THIS QUALIFICATION FOR? .....	3
5. MATERIALS AND CERTIFICATION .....	3
6. ASSESSMENT .....	3
7. LEARNING OUTCOMES .....	4
8. PROGRESSION AFTER THIS QUALIFICATION .....	5

## 1. ABOUT THE VERDANCY GROUP AND NATIONAL OPEN COLLEGE NETWORK

The Verdancy Group is committed to providing comprehensive sustainability training and environmental guidance to a diverse array of stakeholders, encompassing organisations, educational bodies, and community groups. With a firm belief in the power of education and learning, the Group aims to empower individuals of every age to make informed and sustainable decisions. This dedication highlights The Verdancy Group's pivotal role in enhancing environmental awareness and fostering sustainable practices.

For over three decades, NOCN has been at the forefront of creating opportunities through learning and skills development. As an educational charity, NOCN Group's primary objectives are to support learners in achieving their full potential and to assist organisations in flourishing. Their long-standing commitment to education and development underscores their contribution to personal and professional growth across various sectors.

## 2. QUALIFICATION OVERVIEW

The [Award in Understanding Domestic Retrofit](#) is accredited by the National Open College Network (NOCN) Level 2.

The Level 2 Award is registered within the Regulated Qualifications Framework for England and Northern Ireland ([www.register.ofqual.gov.uk](http://www.register.ofqual.gov.uk)) and is broadly comparable with the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) at Level 5.

This vocational award introduces learners to retrofit and its strategic role in decarbonising the Built Environment. Successful completion grants knowledge of retrofit principles.

## 3. QUALIFICATION DURATION

The award is a 3-credit qualification with a Total Qualification Time (TQT) of 30, including 21 Guided Learning Hours (GLH).

## 4. WHO IS THIS QUALIFICATION FOR?

This award is primarily designed for individuals with a background in the construction industry, including those who have completed or are pursuing other construction qualifications, such as Construction Modern Apprenticeships. It is also open to individuals currently working or with prior experience in construction, aiming to transition into the retrofit sector. Additionally, it serves as an opportunity to attract new entrants into the sector.

## 5. MATERIALS AND CERTIFICATION

The award can be delivered and accessed via the following methods:

- Engage in 21 hours of eLearning, as part of the total award time of 30 hours. 8-week completion timeline.
- Practical in-person masterclass sessions and assessments are held at one of the regional partner delivery centres. To be booked following candidate registration.
- 1-1 remote facilitated mentoring and support.

All successful candidates will receive NOCN Certification.

## 6. ASSESSMENT

35 multi-choice question assessment. The time allowed for the 35 questions is 50 minutes. The pass mark is 25 out of 35. Three attempts are permitted. Remote and in-person assessment is available.

# Award in Understanding Domestic Retrofit - NOCN Level 2 Accredited

There are six modules within the Award in Understanding Domestic Retrofit:

MODULE	DESCRIPTION	MODULE CONTENT
1. Climate change and the need for retrofit	Climate Change and Retrofit Introduction: Navigating the Urgency for Sustainable Building Solutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome and Introduction</li><li>• What is Domestic Retrofit and why do we need it?</li><li>• International Cooperation and Climate Change</li><li>• Reducing Emissions in Domestic Buildings and Fuel Poverty</li><li>• Energy Performance Certificate (EPC)</li></ul>
2. Information and Documentation used in Domestic Retrofit	Exploring Information and Documentation for Domestic Retrofit: Effective Strategies for Planning and Implementation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Retrofit Documentation and Information</li><li>• The Introduction of PAS 2030/2035 and the role of Trustmark</li><li>• BS40101 - Building performance evaluation of occupied and operational buildings</li><li>• The Critical Path</li></ul>
3. Organisational Structures in Retrofit	Understanding Organisational Structures in Retrofit: Strategies for Efficient Implementation and Sustainability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Retrofit Standards</li><li>• Fabric First</li><li>• The Retrofit Roles</li><li>• The Retrofit Process</li><li>• Monitoring, Evaluation and Testing</li></ul>
4. The Context of Retrofit in Building Practice	Foundations of Retrofit: Exploring Construction Types, Energy Efficiency, Insulation, Building Defects, and Domestic Retrofit Challenges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Construction Types</li><li>• Energy Efficiency Measures in Retrofit</li><li>• Insulation Materials and Characteristics</li><li>• Building Defects</li><li>• Problems associated with Domestic Retrofit</li></ul>
5. Health, Safety and Environmental Practice	Building Retrofit Best Practices: Ensuring Safety, Sustainability, and Circular Solutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Health &amp; Safety</li><li>• Waste disposal &amp; Circular Economy</li></ul>
6. Effective Communication, Teamwork, and Specialist Skills for Retrofit	Retrofit Collaboration: Enhancing Communication, Teamwork, and Specialised Expertise.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Effective Communication and Teamwork</li><li>• Specialist Skills &amp; Knowledge in the Retrofit Sector</li><li>• Key Takeaways and Next Steps</li></ul>

## 8. PROGRESSION AFTER THIS QUALIFICATION

Achievement of this qualification confirms the learner has gained the knowledge and understanding required to:

- Progress directly into employment
- Progress into further learning at a higher level

The design of the course is focused on providing the learner with the opportunity to gain knowledge and understanding to assist with progression onto the SVQ Level 2 or Level 3 in Building Treatments and Insulation or into employment in the retrofit sector of the construction industry.



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