



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

APHA Briefing Note 47/25

Updated requirement for the nominated Supervisor for conditionally authorised OV's completing the OCQ(V)-TT.

Date issued: 1 December 2025

Purpose

To update all TT OV's on the requirements for the nominated Supervisor as part of the practical training and supervision for candidates undertaking the OCQ(V)-TT.

Background

As part of the OCQ(V)-TT process, candidates are required to nominate a supervisor for their practical training period. The nominated Supervisor must be an OV who also holds the OCQ(V)-TT qualification and who is experienced and confident to train the new OV. The nominated Supervisor is responsible for the supervision of the OV during the practical training process.

The instructions at present do not stipulate any previous audit requirements for the nominated Supervisor.

To align the supervisor requirements of both the OCQ(V)-TT and the OCQ(AHP)-ATT course, a new audit requirement will be introduced. The date of implementation for this change will be 01/06/2026 (6 months from the date of this briefing note).

All OV's who wish to act as a nominated Supervisor on or after 01/06/2026 must hold a fully compliant Veterinary Delivery Partner (VDP), APHA or Improve International audit within the two years prior to accepting the role. Where there have been multiple audits within that period, the last audit must have been fully compliant. If there are any recorded non-compliances, an individual will not be considered suitable to fulfil the nominated Supervisor role.

APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.

Once the role of nominated Supervisor has been assumed, any subsequent failure of an audit will result in withdrawal of the role of nominated Supervisor pending retraining of the OV. If test validity is jeopardised by this audit failure, the nominated Supervisor will be disqualified from their supervisory role for a period of 12 months.

Non-compliance identified at audit of a nominated Supervisor (without audit failure) will not result in automatic withdrawal of the Supervisor role. Additional actions will be taken depending on the severity and number of non-compliances found, as for any other OV audit. APHA may also carry out a targeted unannounced audit of any Supervisor if considered necessary.

Action

All OVs who intend to become a nominated Supervisor after 01/06/2026 must ensure they meet the new requirement of having a fully compliant audit within two years of taking up the supervisory role. If there are any non-compliances recorded, an OV will not be eligible to supervise a conditionally authorised OV during their practical training phase of the OCQ(V)-TT.

Any OV wishing to take on a supervisor role from 01/06/2026 and who does not meet the new audit requirements, must either:

- arrange for another OV to supervise the candidate OV undertaking the OCQ(V) -TT or
- arrange for an audit to be conducted with the relevant audit provider with the aim of meeting the audit requirement.

Any OV who is confirmed as the nominated Supervisor on the training record of a conditionally authorised OV prior to 01/06/2026 will not need to meet the new requirements to continue supervising that individual. However, they will need to meet the new requirements for any OVs that they are nominated to supervise on or after 01/06/2026.

Contacts

For further information regarding the training, including registration, enrolment and technical support:

- Email: enquiries@improve-ov.com
- Improve International – Tel: 0330 202 0380

For queries relating to training and authorisation:

APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.

- APHA OV team – Email: CSCOneHealthOVTeam@apha.gov.uk

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