



BRITISH ACCREDITATION COUNCIL INSPECTION REPORT

INTERIM INSPECTION (Short Course Provider)

ORGANISATION: Local Content Solutions Ltd

ADDRESS: 35 Queen Street
Henley-on-Thames
Oxfordshire
RG9 1AP

HEAD OF ORGANISATION: Dr Michael Warner

Accreditation status: Accredited

Date of inspection: 14 January 2015

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE DECISION AND DATE: Continued Accreditation 29 January 2015

PART A - INTRODUCTION

1. Background to the organisation

Local Content Solutions Ltd (LCS) was established in March 2010, and was then known as SNSI Ltd. It changed the company name to Local Content Solutions Ltd in August 2011. There is one Director who is the sole owner of the company which is limited by shares. He is also the only member of full-time teaching staff and solely responsible for the delivery of the programme set out below. LCS provides three-day residential intensive courses for middle managers in procurement and other functions from well-established oil, gas and mining organisations, and associated suppliers and regulators. The training programmes are operational approximately every six months, usually in November and May, with around 19 to 20 delegates in each case. Most of the delegates are recruited from oil producing countries such as Ghana, UK, France, USA, Kazakhstan, UAE and other African states.

At the time of this interim visit such programmes had been delivered successfully in the 14 months since the last full inspection.

2. Brief description of the current provision

The provision is titled as the LCS Master Class in Local Content which is specifically designed as a bespoke programme for the oil, gas and mining sectors. Its purpose is to highlight the challenges facing public officials and private sector companies in meeting Local Content regulations and supporting the sustainable industrial development of a host economy.

The Director is solely responsible for the vast majority of the delivery of the programme as he is an acknowledged expert in the field. He has a wide and rich experience of aligning business strategy with the economic and social priorities of host countries having worked for BG Group, the World Bank, and as research fellow with the Overseas Development Institute where he managed the business and development programme. Additionally, he has experience of working in many countries in Europe, Africa, Central and South East Asia, the Middle East and Latin America on various assignments for international oil companies. His expertise has also been central to television and radio programmes focusing on the discussion of such developments and he has written a book "Local Content in Procurement", published in September 2011, which is seen as the major publication in this area. In short, the Director is the course and the course revolves around his delivery and his internationally recognised expertise.

All programmes focus on strategic alignment in local content, procurement to manage local content and the mechanics of local content, including ethical considerations. The reference material which has been put together by LCS is wide and varied. The materials are subject to constant change and are regularly updated to take into account the constant change occurring in the industry.

There are no examinations or assessments for the provision, though delegates are presented with a Certificate of Completion. The Director may consider a possible link with Reading University in the future.

Occasionally the Director is supported in the delivery of the provision by guest speakers who are invited to provide an input and to engage in question and answer sessions. When operational, the courses are housed in the internationally prestigious Henley Business School, which is owned by the University of Reading and is located in wonderful grounds by the river Thames, approximately two miles from Henley-on-Thames.

3. Inspection process

This interim inspection took place over one half-day at the LCS offices and was undertaken by one inspector.

4. Inspection history

Full inspection: 23 October and 21 November 2013

PART B – JUDGEMENTS AND EVIDENCE

The following judgements and comments are based upon evidence seen by the inspector(s) during the inspection and from documentation provided by the provider

1. Significant changes since the last inspection

The Director has instituted a system of reporting for delegates to make known their satisfaction levels with various aspects of the course. These have been used for the last two programmes which have been delivered. The two top grades of “very good” and “good” account for 100% of the returns with an average of 84% for the grade of “very good”. Various other accolades also appear under “General comments”.

2. Response to action points in last report

There were no action points in the last report.

3. Compliance with BAC accreditation requirements – spot check

3.1 Management, Staffing and Administration

	Met	Partially met	Not met	NA
The standards are judged to be	✓			
Comments				

3.2 Teaching, Learning and Assessment

	Met	Partially met	Not met	NA
The standards are judged to be	✓			
Comments				

3.3 Participant Welfare

	Met	Partially met	Not met	NA
The standards are judged to be	✓			
Comments The Director has, in certain circumstances, taken further precautionary action to ensure that delegates are appropriately recruited. To this end scanned passports may be requested and/or an appropriate supporting signature of a line manager may be attached to the application form.				

3.4 Premises and Facilities

	Met	Partially met	Not met	NA
The standards are judged to be	✓			
Comments				

PART C – SUMMARY OF STRENGTHS AND ACTION POINTS

Institution’s strengths

- Excellent organisation and the high quality documentation relating to the course.
- Constant regard to recruitment procedures to ensure that processes are appropriate.
- Strong links with the industry gained through consultancy by the Director, who is expertly qualified and experienced.
- The provision of an excellent learning environment for the delivery of programmes.
- Excellently produced learning materials which are exemplars of best practice.
- Constant links with all delegates as the Director and associate speakers live on site during the delivery of the programme.
- The introduction of excellent feedback procedures.

Actions required	Priority H/M/L
None	

COMPLIANCE WITH STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Declaration of compliance has been signed and dated.	YES
Further comments, if applicable	