

Appendix B

Guidance on Reflective Commentaries

A reflective commentary should provide sufficient information to assure the assessor that the writer understands the principles underlying the topic and the processes needed to implement best practice and/or statutory requirements. In essence, that the assessor can be sure that the writer understands the topic, its application in practice and its relevance personally.

Structure for Reflective Writing

- Description
 - What is the background to the topic?
 - What are the main ideas or issues?
- Interpretation
 - What does it mean?
 - How does it apply in practice?
- Outcome
 - What does it mean for me?
 - How do I apply it in my practice/work?

A list of requirements without any analysis of how it relates to practise is not sufficient.

The length of the commentary will vary depending on the complexity of the topic, but about one page (single-spaced, font size 11) is normally adequate. The writer must determine whether or not additional information is required to demonstrate understanding.

Reflective commentaries should be signed by the writer and include a confirmatory statement that the work is original.

It may be helpful to ask a third-party (e.g. the Validation Supervisor) to read and comment on the commentary before submission for assessment