



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NOS for Locksmiths Approved

The National Occupational Standards (NOS) for Locksmiths have been approved by the regulator UKCES and are available to view on the Skills for Security website. This gives the green light to go ahead with development of a qualification structure and apprenticeship framework for the sector, funded by the Master Locksmiths Association (MLA) and the first meeting to determine what is needed will take place on Friday 6th May 10.00 – 12.00 in Worcester.

Working locksmiths, from large and small companies alike, are invited to take part and shape the future of locksmith training nationwide. Ruth Oliver, Skills and Standards Manager at Skills for Security said:

“Locksmiths contributed their knowledge to development of the NOS and we are now asking them to take the next step by telling us what they need in terms of accredited qualifications that will be recognised and trusted across the country. Alongside this work, we are also planning to undertake Labour Market Research into the locksmith sector during June.”

Dr Steffan George, Development director for the MLA, said:

“It’s great to see the effort put in by a number of MLA members to develop these standards having come to fruition. We look forward to working on the next step which is the development of the qualification itself and then moving on to the end goal of the apprenticeship framework.”

If you would like to attend the meeting on 6th May or want to know more about the plans, please contact ruth.oliver@skillsforsecurity.org.uk as soon as possible.

For further information please contact:

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Notes to Editors

About the MLA

The Master Locksmiths Association is a non-profit making body; established to set and promote standards of conduct, practice and materials within the locksmithing industry. It encourages its members to further their knowledge through ongoing education, regional meetings, seminars, its membership magazine Keyways and its website. Standards of entry to the MLA are rigorous and high (including CRB checks and inspections), and its ethos of "Skill and Integrity" exists to ensure that the public, government and industry receive the appropriate service and advice on security matters provided by its members. Created in 1958, the MLA became a limited company in 1986 and now the membership, currently standing at over 1400, is world-wide. The MLA is now the leading trade association for the locksmithing industry and is recognised as the authoritative body for locksmithing by the Police, the Home Office, the British Standards Institute, Insurers Property Crime Research Group (IPCRes) and Building Research Establishment (BRE) amongst others. The MLA also offers a full suite of training courses to the trade, held at their purpose built training facility at their headquarters in Daventry. Sold Secure, the leading independent security test and validation laboratory is a wholly owned subsidiary of the MLA.

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