

**Landscape
Institute entry
standards and
competency
framework
– Core landscape
competencies**



Chartered Member – Competency Requirements

Additional Landscape Competencies

Members will be required to meet a selection of these competencies based on their knowledge and experience

All applicants

All applicants for chartered membership must achieve **all Core Landscape Competencies** and **five Additional Landscape Competencies** (16 competencies in total) to the following levels:

9 competencies to Level B (this must include Sustainability, Climate and Resilience) and;

7 competencies to Level C

Choices must:

Be no more than 1 from:

- Contract administration (must be taken to level B by anyone wishing to work as a Contract Administrator)
- Contract management

And no more than 2 from:

- Design – garden
- Design – landscape
- Design – public realm

Chartered Landscape Architect Pathway

Subject to the requirements for all applicants those wishing to use the title Chartered Landscape Architect must include in their choices:

A minimum of 1 at Level B from:

- Design – garden
- Design – landscape
- Design – public realm

A minimum of 2

(at Level B or C) from:

- Contract administration or Contract management
- Landscape assessment
- Landscape construction (materials and systems)
- Landscape planning and/or policy
- Master planning
- Planting and horticulture
- Procurement and tendering
- Visualisation and photography
- Water management

Core Landscape competencies

Professional competencies

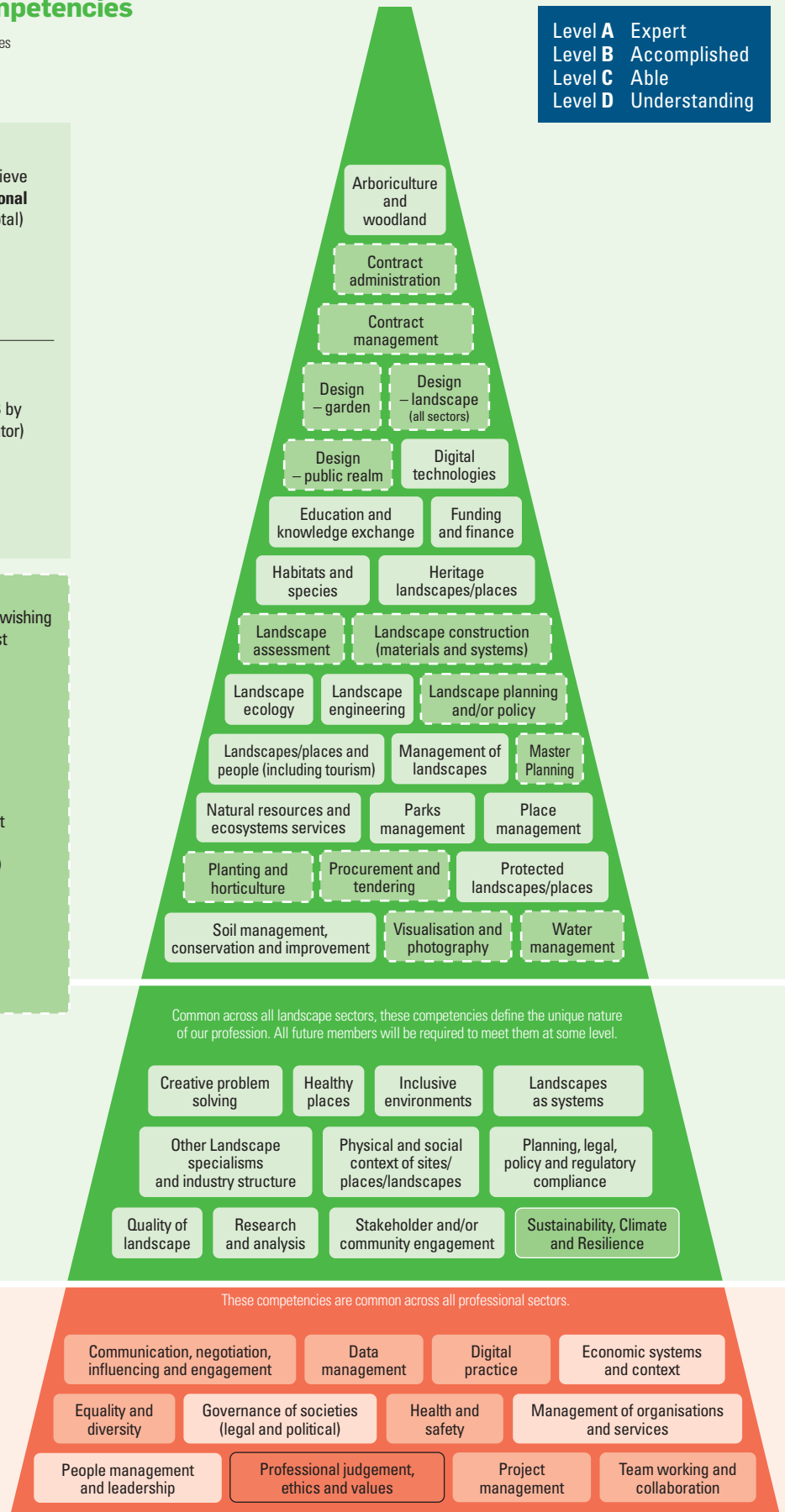
Members need to achieve all competencies at levels indicated:

Level B

Level C

Level D

Level A Expert
Level B Accomplished
Level C Able
Level D Understanding



Technician – Competency Requirements

Additional Landscape Competencies

Members will be required to meet a selection of these competencies based on their knowledge and experience

All applicants

All applicants for Technician Membership must achieve all the Core Landscape Competencies and either one or two Additional Landscape Competencies to the following levels:

8 to Level D

AND EITHER:

5 to Level C (which must include Sustainability, Climate and Resilience)

OR:

1 to Level B and **3 to Level C** (one of the Level C choices must be Sustainability, Climate and Resilience)

Choices must:

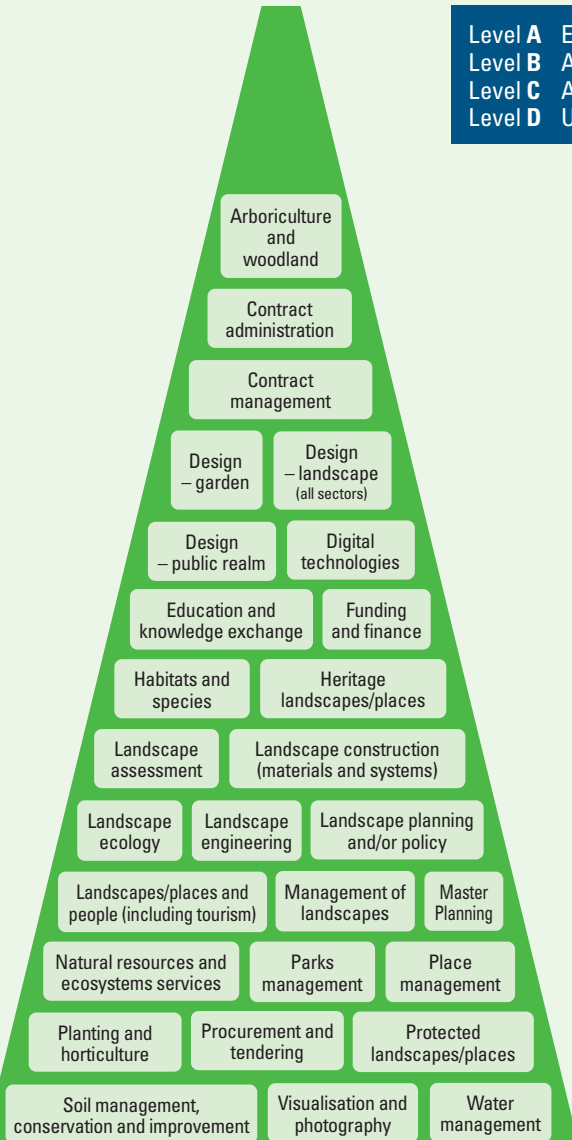
Be no more than 1 from:

- Contract administration (must be taken to level B by anyone wishing to work as a Contract Administrator)
- Contract management

And no more than 1 from:

- Design – garden
- Design – landscape
- Design – public realm

Level A	Expert
Level B	Accomplished
Level C	Able
Level D	Understanding



Common across all landscape sectors, these competencies define the unique nature of our profession. All future members will be required to meet them at some level.

Core Landscape competencies



Professional competencies

Members need to achieve all competencies at levels indicated:

Level D

Level C

Plus one from the list to Level C





These competencies are common across all professional sectors.


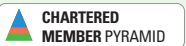




🌿 Core Landscape Competencies

(in alphabetical order)

Competency	Description	Level D – Understanding	Level C – Able	Level B – Accomplished	Level A – Expert
Creative problem solving	Identifies issues, challenges, and opportunities relating to landscapes and/or places and develops and implements effective solutions using initiative and creativity.	Demonstrates an understanding of the challenges and opportunities relating to landscapes/places, how to identify and recognise issues, challenges and opportunities and the potential solutions	Contributes to identifying how to apply creative solutions to solving landscape/places related issues, challenges and opportunities	Actively identifies challenges and opportunities of landscapes/places and solves problems using initiative, creativity and innovation	Is a recognised authority on creatively solving landscape/place related challenges and is called upon to provide expert advice and recommendations on finding and implementing creative and innovative solutions to challenges on a range of complex landscape/place projects.
 TECHNICIAN PYRAMID  CHARTERED MEMBER PYRAMID	To be competent you will need to demonstrate that in relation to your landscape specialism you:	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The range of opportunities and challenges facing landscapes/places • The methods for identifying issues, challenges and opportunities • Appropriate methods to reveal solutions to address issues, challenges and opportunities • How to account for a range of issues when finding solutions relating to landscape/places 	Can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify issues, challenges and opportunities for simple projects • Assist in finding solutions that address issues, challenges and opportunities • Account for a range of issues in a simple landscape/place project 	Can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop plans for finding innovative solutions to problems • Independently solve problems in complex projects • Show creativity, initiative and innovation in solving landscape/place problems • Implement effective solutions 	Are called upon to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide expert advice on solving landscape/place related challenges • Train and develop others in creative problem solving • Advise industry bodies (or similar) on creative problem solving
Healthy places	Recognises landscapes and/or places as assets with the potential to improve health and wellbeing. Adopts the principles of healthy places that improve the physical aspects of the landscape (air, water and soil quality).	Demonstrates an understanding of the principles of healthy places and related national and local policies	Contributes to the planning/design and/or management of landscapes and places that positively influence the health and wellbeing of communities.	Creates landscapes or places that embed the principles of healthy places.	Is a recognised authority on the creation of landscapes as healthy places that improve health and wellbeing
 TECHNICIAN PYRAMID  CHARTERED MEMBER PYRAMID	To be competent you will need to demonstrate that in relation to your landscape specialism you:	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meaning of health and wellbeing including physical and mental aspects • Public health policy and practice and how this relates to landscape interventions • What makes a healthy landscape • The evidence base of links between attributes of the landscape and health and wellbeing • Social, personal and other environmental factors that affect health • The principles of healthy places developed by the Landscape Institute 	Can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to applying the principles and approaches that are essential to the creation of healthy places • Propose specific interventions to achieve positive outcomes for people's health and wellbeing through landscape • Work with other professionals to ensure that external environments are conducive to health 	Can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead the application of the principles of healthy places to landscape projects • Treat landscapes as important for health and wellbeing • Use tools such as Health Impact Assessments or similar to assess the ways in which projects can contribute towards positive health outcomes • Encourage and support collaboration with other professionals to ensure places promote health & wellbeing 	Are called upon to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide expert advice on healthy places • Train and develop others to plan, design or manage healthy places and embed the principles developed by the Landscape Institute • Act as an ambassador for healthy places • Advise industry bodies (or similar) on the links between landscape, health and wellbeing

Competency	Description	Level D – Understanding	Level C – Able	Level B – Accomplished	Level A – Expert
Inclusive environments	Seeks to ensure landscapes and places are accessible and inclusive for all, by working to remove the barriers that create undue effort and separation.	Demonstrates an understanding of the principles and processes that deliver accessible and inclusive environments and the related legal requirements	Contributes to providing landscapes that are convenient and enjoyable to use by everyone and comply with legal requirements and policies.	Applies the principles and processes that deliver accessible and inclusive environments. Acknowledges diversity and difference.	Is a recognised authority on accessible and inclusive environments is called upon to provide expert advice and recommendations on how to ensure landscapes and places are accessible and inclusive to all
 	To be competent you will need to demonstrate that in relation to your landscape specialism you:	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meaning of inclusivity • Best practice guidance and standards • The diversity of user needs • Legal, planning, policy, building regulations and health and safety requirements relating to inclusive environments • The barriers that can inhibit use 	Can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify barriers that can inhibit use • Apply best practice guidance standards • Acknowledge different user needs • Comply with legal, planning policy, building regulations and health and safety requirements relating to inclusive environments 	Can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embed the principles of inclusive environments in landscape projects • Deliver projects that meet the diversity of user needs • Remove barriers that inhibit use 	Are called upon to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Champion accessible and inclusive landscapes/ places • Provide expert advice to others on inclusive environments • Train and develop others to apply the principles and processes of inclusive environments • Advise industry bodies (or similar) on inclusive environments
Landscapes as systems	Understands and considers natural processes - soil, air, water, carbon and ecological systems and the role of human intervention including management and maintenance. Understands the important link between plants, animals, trees and materials and habitat development and biodiversity in urban and/or rural settings.	Demonstrates an understanding of natural processes and ecosystems and opportunities for improvements to biodiversity through landscape projects.	Considers natural processes and ecosystems on landscape projects and promotes opportunities to develop habitats and improve biodiversity.	Provides solutions to improve natural processes, ecosystems and biodiversity on landscape projects at all scales through intervention in a context relevant to a landscape specialism	Is a recognised authority on landscapes as systems and is called upon to provide expert advice and solutions on how to integrate improvements to, and monitor the success of, landscape systems on complex projects and involving a range of interventions at multiple scales, in varying settings and in different climates and geographic locations.
 	To be competent you will need to demonstrate that in relation to your landscape specialism you:	Understands: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscapes as ecological systems • The importance and relevance for your landscape specialism • Natural environmental systems: water cycle, water filtration, ecosystems, plant life cycle, climate and microclimate, weather, geomorphological, carbon cycle and the interaction of these with anthropogenic systems • Habitat development and succession • The role of, techniques for, and implications of human intervention in natural systems • Biosecurity and plant health 	Can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the landscape systems relevant to each project/site/area • Proactively contribute to promoting and improving biodiversity and biosecurity through landscape/place projects • Contribute to interventions in the operation of natural landscape-based systems to achieve specific objectives for clients/employers, society, wildlife, water, carbon, and stability and anticipate the implications of so doing • Seek specialist advice when required 	Can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider all natural environmental systems in landscape projects and activities • Factor into decision making the interconnection between environmental systems and anthropogenic systems • Orchestrate multiple interventions in environmental and anthropogenic systems to achieve objectives 	Are called upon to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide expert advice to others on how to assess landscapes as systems, implement improvements and monitor success • Train and develop others to apply the principles and processes of creating landscapes as systems • Advise industry bodies (or similar) on creating landscapes as systems

Competency	Description	Level D – Understanding	Level C – Able	Level B – Accomplished	Level A – Expert
Other Landscape specialisms and industry structure	Understands the role of and is able to work with the range of different landscape specialists	Demonstrates an understanding of the role of the different landscape specialists and the different roles they play and skills they bring to the profession	Works with and/or engages with other landscape specialists and other professionals	Proactively collaborates with other landscape specialists and other relevant professionals	Is a recognised authority on the links between the different landscape specialists and with other relevant professionals
	To be competent you will need to demonstrate that you:	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of the Landscape Institute in supporting different landscape specialisms • Other bodies relevant to your specialism • The role of the different landscape specialists, including but not limited to designers, managers, scientists, planners, ecologists, urban designers and place managers • The interaction between the different landscape specialists • The role of other professionals and professional bodies in the built and natural environment • The relationship between landscape professionals and other professionals in the built and natural environment 	Can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify where other specialists should be involved • Work with other landscape specialists • Work with other professionals in the built and natural environment 	Can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with other landscape professionals to find solutions • Collaborate with other professionals to find solutions • Make decisions taking account of the input from other specialists 	Are called upon to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide expert advice to others on the links between and the differences between the different landscape specialisms and professions • Train and develop others to work with other specialists • Advise industry bodies (or similar) on the landscape specialisms
	 				
Physical and social context of sites/places/landscapes	Accounts for the physical and social context of places and/or landscapes, including visual, environmental, access/use, heritage and assesses the distinctive, characteristic and functional qualities of component parts and the whole.	Demonstrates understanding of the physical and social context of landscapes and/or places and the importance of this	Contributes to accounting for the physical and social context of landscapes and/or places	Actively assesses and considers the physical and social context of landscapes and/or places	Is a recognised authority on the context of landscapes
	To be competent you will need to demonstrate that in relation to your landscape specialism you:	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The different drivers for which landscape context can be defined • Methods for defining landscape context including landscape and townscape character • The importance of defining landscape context • How to assess the attributes of landscapes 	Can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the physical and social context of an area or topic under consideration • Define landscapes at varying scales accounting for the physical and/or social context • Contribute to assessing the attributes of landscapes 	Can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Account for the physical and social context of landscapes • Evaluate the distinctive, characteristic and functional components 	Are called upon to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide expert advice to others on the context of landscapes • Train and develop others to account for the context of landscapes • Advise industry bodies (or similar)
	 				

Competency	Description	Level D – Understanding	Level C – Able	Level B – Accomplished	Level A – Expert
Planning, legal, policy and regulatory compliance	Complies with the planning, legal, policy and regulatory framework including but not limited to, town and country planning, access and rights of way, landscape and environment, statutory and non statutory designations associated with landscape, trees and woodlands, ecology, heritage and wildlife.	Demonstrates understanding of the planning, legal, policy and regulatory framework relevant to landscape and to the individual's country of practice	Applies the principles of relevant planning, legislation, policy or regulations to simple projects	Provides reasoned advice and recommendations to ensure compliance with legal, policy and regulatory requirements relevant to the landscape specialism. Represent clients/ employers to statutory bodies or other parties relating to planning, legal and regulatory compliance.	Is a recognised authority on planning, legal, policy and regulatory compliance and is called upon to provide expert advice and recommendations on such compliance
	To be competent you will need to demonstrate that in relation to your landscape specialism you:	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The statutory process for making planning applications • The Planning Appeal process • Planning policy at national and sub-national levels • The role of government in strategic infrastructure development • Environmental Impact Assessment • Building regulations relevant to the country of practice • Legislation and regulations regarding access, easements and rights of way • Statutory and non statutory designations associated with landscape, trees and woodlands, ecology, heritage and wildlife • The broad structure of statutory and non-statutory guidance available relating to landscape • Any mandatory requirements of the Landscape Institute 	Can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comply with the legal and regulatory framework relating to landscape, land, trees, species, habitats, heritage and rights of way in your country of practice • Comply with planning requirements for landscape projects • Take account of environmental impact assessments • Comply with the requirements of statutory and, where appropriate, non statutory designations • Comply with any mandatory requirements of the Landscape Institute 	Can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise others on legal and regulatory compliance • Can interpret the implications of emerging regulations • Provide recommendations on how to comply with legal and regulatory requirements 	Are called upon to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide expert advice to others on issues relating to planning, legal, policy or regulatory compliance • Train and develop others to comply with planning, legal, policy and regulatory compliance • Advise industry bodies (or similar) on planning, legal, policy or regulatory compliance relating to landscape • Represent clients/ employers to other bodies, e.g. at planning hearings or Public Inquiries



Competency	Description	Level D – Understanding	Level C – Able	Level B – Accomplished	Level A – Expert
Quality of landscape	Promotes quality interventions that integrate with both the function and identity of a landscape and/or place putting land, water, drainage, energy, community, economic, infrastructure and other such resources to the best possible use	Demonstrates an understanding of landscape quality in respect of both the function and identity of landscape/place	Considers function and identity through landscape/place projects and contributes to the promotion of quality interventions that create high quality landscapes	Undertake quality interventions to improve and develop landscape quality and make best use of resources	Is a recognised authority on landscape quality and is called upon to provide expert advice and solutions on how to improve landscape quality.
	To be competent you will need to demonstrate that in relation to your landscape specialism you:	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The various factors that may be associated with definitions of judgements about quality, and in relation to utility and functionality • Methods for evaluating landscape quality and their limitations • Standards relating to quality and quality assurance • Appreciation of methods to improve quality of workflows, such as 'internal customer', BIM, stakeholder engagement 	<p>Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to an objective evaluation of a landscape • Develop plans for interventions to address matters of landscape quality • Comply with relevant quality standards for own workflows • Report on and illustrate aspects of landscape quality in an engaging and technically adept way • Be able to handle objective and subjective aspects competently in communications • Benchmark own performance using quality standards 	<p>Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure operation within the context of quality standards and explicit objectives for quality assurance • Secure quality interventions which work in detail as well as strategically to meet client/employer and societal needs • Show the capability to plan an evaluation of landscape quality when required • Exploit mechanisms such as quality marks, awards, excellence frameworks and management systems to secure longer-term solutions • Develop a quality-focus in organisational culture 	<p>Are called upon to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide expert advice to others on landscape quality • Train and develop others to undertake quality interventions • Advise industry bodies (or similar) on landscape quality • Develop new national quality marks or standards



Competency	Description	Level D – Understanding	Level C – Able	Level B – Accomplished	Level A – Expert
Research and analysis	Undertakes research and analysis relating to landscapes and/or places including, but not limited to, the way places work and how they look, their history and context, the connections between people and places, movement and design, nature and the built fabric, natural capital, health impact assessments and the processes for ensuring successful places.	Demonstrates understanding of the methods and types of formal and informal research and analysis that can be used in the landscape sector	Contributes to the undertaking of research and analysis relating to the individual's landscape specialism	Undertakes complex research and analysis with detailed justified and evidenced recommendations relating to the individual's landscape specialism	Is a recognised authority on the undertaking of research and analysis relevant to a landscape specialism
	To be competent you will need to demonstrate that in relation to your landscape specialism you:	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The different research methods that can be used including both qualitative and quantitative methods • Methods used to collect relevant data • How to analyse data for specific purposes • Technology to support research • How to structure a research project • Methods and techniques for assessing landscapes/sites as appropriate to your specialism • How to assess a landscape/site in terms of its capacity to meet a specific project brief • Confidentiality and ethical issues 	<p>Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan a simple research activity • Collect data • Undertake simple data analysis • Draw conclusions 	<p>Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan and undertake complex research relating to landscapes/sites • Analyse complex data sets • Draw insightful conclusions • Make reasoned and justified recommendations based on research undertaken 	<p>Are called upon to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide expert advice to others on research and assessment • Train and develop others to research and assessment, e.g. Ph.D supervision • Advise industry bodies (or similar) on research and assessment relating to landscape



TECHNICIAN
PYRAMID



CHARTERED
MEMBER PYRAMID

Competency	Description	Level D – Understanding	Level C – Able	Level B – Accomplished	Level A – Expert
Stakeholder and/or community engagement	Fosters participative engagement. Proactively seeks out stakeholder/community values, concerns and aspirations, incorporates those values, concerns and aspirations into a decision-making process or processes and establishes an ongoing partnership with the stakeholders/community to ensure that their priorities and values continue to be accounted for.	Demonstrates an understanding of the purpose and importance of stakeholder/ community engagement, the relevant methods that can be adopted and appropriate timings.	Contributes to stakeholder/ community engagement relating to landscape projects. Designs engagement activities and reports on comments and concerns.	Identifies need for and undertakes participative stakeholder/ community engagement and incorporates values, concerns and aspirations into a decision-making process and establishes an ongoing partnership with the stakeholder/ community.	Is a recognised authority on stakeholder/ community engagement and is called upon to provide expert advice and recommendations on how to engage stakeholders/ communities on a range of complex landscape projects.
	To be competent you will need to demonstrate that in relation to your landscape specialism you:	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder/ community engagement The importance for your landscape specialism How to ensure inclusive engagement The different methods of engagement The tools and techniques that can be used to understand stakeholder/ community views and values and to build consensus statutory requirements for consultation and stakeholder/ community involvement Best timing for different methods How the political context may influence choice 	<p>Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify stakeholders Identify and minimise barriers Design appropriate engagement methods Design appropriate events Proactively contribute to/ participate in a range of stakeholder/ community engagement activities including face to face and remote methods Obtain, record, analyse and summarise feedback 	<p>Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop plans for engaging stakeholders/ communities on landscape projects Undertake stakeholder/ community engagement using a range of appropriate methods and sub-commissioning outside expertise where needed Design bespoke engagement processes for specific project requirements Demonstrate the statistical significance of results Make decisions based on the feedback from your engagement Develop partnerships with stakeholders/ communities relevant to your landscape specialism Build trust 	<p>Are called upon to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide expert advice to others on how to engage stakeholders/ communities Train and develop others to proactively engage with stakeholders/ communities Advise industry bodies (or similar) on best practice in stakeholder/ community engagement



TECHNICIAN
PYRAMID



CHARTERED
MEMBER PYRAMID

Competency	Description	Level D – Understanding	Level C – Able	Level B – Accomplished	Level A – Expert
Sustainability, climate and resilience	Applies the principles of social, economic and environmental sustainability to landscape projects. Fosters the capacity of landscapes and/or places to survive, adapt, and grow under changing conditions and challenges to their physical, social, economic and technical systems and infrastructure. Seeks to avoid climate change and to manage micro climates. Enhances the value of the environment and implements resource management policies appropriately utilising natural resources.	Demonstrates an understanding of the importance of sustainability to landscapes and places and the challenges of climate and other changing conditions.	Contributes to embedding sustainability into landscape projects and building resilience	Proactively promotes sustainability and the efficient use of resources within landscape projects	Is a recognised authority on and ambassador for sustainability and the need to build resilience in landscapes and places.
	To be competent you will need to demonstrate that in relation to your landscape specialism you:	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meaning of sustainability and resilience, including concepts such as the three pillars of sustainability – social, economic and environmental • The importance of sustainability • Climate change and the impact of extreme weather events on landscapes • Sustainable biosecurity and plant health • The need to and consequences of 'hardening' e.g: streetscapes against terrorism; coasts and hillslopes against erosion; landscapes against flooding, • Ways to reduce carbon footprint, water and energy requirements of landscapes • Ways to mitigate the impact of climate change and manage micro climates • Adaptation and maladaptation • Legislation, regulation, and planning requirements and grassroots movements regarding climate change and sustainability in your country of practice • Relevant Landscape Institute Technical Guidance Notes and Mandatory Requirements 	<p>Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply the principles of the three pillars of sustainability to landscape projects • Implement resource management policies appropriately • Comply with legislation, regulation and planning requirements • Take affirmative action through interventions to help address climate change 	<p>Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embed sustainability and an appropriate response climate change into all projects • Seek innovative solutions to mitigate climate change and ensure landscape resilience • Work with stakeholders and collaborate with others to foster the capacity of landscapes to survive, adapt and grow under changing conditions and challenges to their physical, social, economic and technical systems and infrastructure. 	<p>Are called upon to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide expert advice to others sustainability and resilience • Train and develop others regarding sustainability and resilience • Advise industry bodies (or similar) sustainability and resilience



TECHNICIAN
PYRAMID



CHARTERED
MEMBER PYRAMID

