



16 February 2022

**FISS/CSCS: important news update**

**FISS/CSCS e-cards to be rolled out from April 2022**

Due to a global shortage of microchips used generally across a wide range of sectors and the huge impact this is going to have on the production of our Smartcards. Lantra, with the support of the Fencing Industry Skills Scheme (FISS) and the Association of Fencing Industries (AFI), will be moving to virtual technology sooner than expected.

Our prime objective is to ensure that our customers continue to have visibility and control of their skills data, and that we meet the future requirements as set by the CSCS Partnercard schemes to provide virtual cards (e-cards). This in turn provides support to their new initiative for a CSCS Smart Check app which will also be rolled out from April 2022. The CSCS Smart Check app originally resulted from Build UK's last Smartcard Audit. This highlighted the need for all cards to be checked using the same technology with a vision to make it easier for employers and site managers to check the qualifications and training of workers.

More detailed information on e-cards will be released shortly to assist training providers, learners, and skilled workers. In the interim I can advise the following:

- New FISS/CSCS e-cards are expected to be issued to new applicants from April 2022
  - Green FISS/CSCS (labourer/fencing labourer) e-cards will be rolled out first
  - All other FISS/CSCS e-card levels will follow shortly thereafter, July 2022 onwards
- Existing Smartcards will remain valid until all skills have expired

During the 'roll-out' period there will be a limited number of Smartcards held in reserve for exceptional circumstances. In addition, Smartcards will be issued alongside e-cards for an interim period whilst we have stock availability.

Individual's e-cards will be available from the Lantra Learner website (*web address to be released April 2022*), which can also be accessed and printed, if required, for proof of qualification.

This is an exciting opportunity for Lantra and the Fencing Industry to contribute towards sustainability and reducing our carbon footprint.

Lantra are keen to work hand in hand with our training providers to facilitate a smooth transition to e-cards and both Lantra and the FISS Management Committee would like to thank you all for your patience and support during implementation of the new e-cards.

FISS Secretariat and Scheme Administrators

Head of Industry Partnerships  
Lantra FISS/CSCS