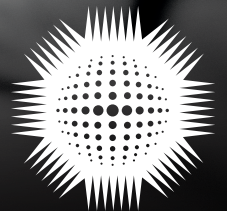


NEBOSH Ethical Practice Report

January – March 2026



nebosh

NEBOSH Ethical Practice Report

NEBOSH’s Ethical Practice Report publishes information about our approach to ethical practice and the outcomes of our activities from January to March 2026.

These quarterly reports outline our proactive approach to detecting and investigating malpractice, and the outcomes of our activities. This report also includes important information for learners about finding an accredited Learning Partner to study with.

Cheats do not have a place in the health and safety profession.

At a glance: January – March 2026

3,348 investigations concluded

7 fraudulent verification websites were taken down or had content removed

5,534

cases of fraudulent activity on social media removed



3,280

learners were found to have engaged in malpractice and received a penalty

1 new Learner Guide: Avoiding malpractice in NEBOSH assessments

NEBOSH Ethical Practice Report

Investigations

NEBOSH employs a team of Ethical Practice experts who review assessments, collect evidence, and conduct thorough investigations into potential incidents of malpractice. Some investigations are more complex than others and may take many months of work, and we use a range of tools and techniques to gather evidence. Where it has been found that malpractice has taken place, we apply appropriate penalties to any person or organisation involved.

Between January and March, we completed 3,384 investigations, resulting in penalties being issued to 3,280 learners. Penalties depend on the severity of the offence and the strength of the evidence collected during the investigation; they can range from voided results to lifetime bans.

Attend and complete your closing interview or professional discussion without assistance

During one learner's closing interview, the interviewer identified that a second person was in the room and was attempting to answer questions on the learner's behalf. The learner realised they had been caught and showed the second person to the camera. The interviewer terminated the interview and reported the incident to NEBOSH. The learner's unit was declared void, and they were banned from NEBOSH assessments for five years.

In another example, a proxy attended a NEBOSH closing interview on behalf of a learner. The Learning Partner identified this by comparing the learner's closing interview with an enrolment interview earlier in their learner journey. The learner's unit was declared void, and they were permanently banned from taking NEBOSH assessments.

This case highlights why we ask Learning Partners to verify learners' identities at different stages of their journey and include such checks in our quality assurance processes.

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Guidance

To help learners understand and work within the rules of NEBOSH's Malpractice Policy, we:

- Have published a Learner Guide: Avoiding malpractice in NEBOSH assessments
- Include reminders throughout the assessment process, including on question papers, to ensure learners are aware of the rules and can complete their assessments with confidence and integrity.
- Provide support and guidance to Learning Partners about how they can protect their businesses from unapproved organisations and support their learners

Our Malpractice Policy is also publicly available on our [website](#).

Write your assessment in your own words

An Examiner reported that a learner's assessment may contain AI-generated content. Upon analysis, our AI detection software and human review identified that most of the assessment had been generated by AI. The learner's unit result was declared void, and they received a one-year ban. Although NEBOSH uses software tools to detect suspected AI misuse, all investigations include human review of the assessment, with any recommended sanctions authorised by a second senior investigator or manager.

Please be reminded that AI-generated outputs are not permitted in NEBOSH assessments. This includes using generative AI to re-write, enhance, summarise, shorten, lengthen or translate passages of text you have written.

Choose an accredited Learning Partner

If you're thinking about studying for a NEBOSH qualification, make sure the organisation you choose is accredited by NEBOSH. Some unapproved centres claim to offer NEBOSH courses, but these are not recognised. This means you could lose time and money and end up without a valid NEBOSH qualification.

How to protect yourself:

- Check before you enrol. Use NEBOSH's official Where to Study tool to find an accredited Learning Partner.
- Be wary of unrealistic claims, such as guaranteed passes, help with exams (which NEBOSH does not allow), low fees or very short courses that do not meet NEBOSH's minimum study hours.
- Check branding and contact details. Genuine Learning Partners use an official logo that includes their unique NEBOSH Learning Partner number. You can search this number in our Where to Study search to verify the organisation's accreditation status.
- Ask NEBOSH directly if you are unsure whether a Learning Partner is approved.

Taking these steps will help make sure your qualification is genuine and verifiable by potential employers.

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Removing fraudulent online content

Our experts monitor websites, blogs and social media to identify any content that could jeopardise NEBOSH's reputation or the integrity of our qualifications. This includes content that:

- Falsely promotes an association with NEBOSH
- Sells fake NEBOSH certificates
- Sells training from an unaccredited organisation
- Helps learners answer a live assessment
- Sells or distributes pre-written answers

We work with specialist solicitors and social media platforms to contact content owners/publishers and have this type of content removed.

In the quarter, we:

- Removed 5,534 social media posts and pages
- Closed 2 fraudulent imitations of the NEBOSH website
- Closed 2 fraudulent verification websites
- Closed 7 fraudulent certificate-selling websites
- Removed content from and/or had a website suspended on 34 sites, for misuse of the NEBOSH brand

Here are examples of the type of fraudulent content we have removed.

Fake certificate website



A fraudulent Instagram account selling fake certificates



NEBOSH Ethical Practice Report

You can help

Malpractice concerns

If you have any evidence about possible malpractice, please report it to us at reportmalpractice@nebosh.org.uk.

Together we can stamp out malpractice and protect the integrity of the health and safety profession.

We review every piece of information and intelligence sent to us, however, for privacy reasons, we cannot provide an update on individual cases or investigations to you.

Fraudulent online content

NEBOSH's Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) experts and lawyers find and remove fraudulent activity such as fake certificates, assessment writing services, guarantees of 100% pass rates, or claims to have access to NEBOSH's systems to change grades. Although it only takes minutes to post something online, it can take days or weeks for NEBOSH to have it removed by the relevant platform. If you see a fraudulent social media post or website, you can help by:

- Reporting it to us at ipr@nebosh.org.uk; and
- Reporting posts to the relevant social media platform.

Private chat groups

It only takes a moment for someone to set up a private chat or group, such as on WhatsApp. Unfortunately, these are hard to detect and report; they are usually accessed by personal phone numbers/accounts and can be invite-only groups. You can help by reporting these groups using in-platform reporting features. You can also share member details with NEBOSH using the details above (we require details such as names, phone numbers and images of conversations to investigate thoroughly).

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NEBOSH, the National Examination Board in Occupational Safety and Health,
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Registered in England and Wales | Company number: 2698100 | Registered charity number: 1010444

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