



WE DISCOVER, WE GROW

**Girlguiding**

# Queen's Guide award

Guidance for coordinators, mentors and supporting volunteers

We've made some changes to the Service in guiding element four and Outdoor challenge elements one and two of the Queen's Guide award. To help you with these changes, we've provided some guidance for those involved supporting Queen's Guide candidates.

## Service in guiding element four (SIG4) - changes

The aim of this element hasn't changed, it's been updated to include opportunities at county level and above.

Any candidate currently completing this element doesn't need to change what they're doing, unless they want to - everything that counted under the old syllabus will still do so.

Members told us that knowing what counted for SIG4 was challenging, so we've created an icon that can be put on opportunities to show they count. To find out who can authorise this icon, look on our website for the Service In Guiding element 4 logo guidance.

Make sure the candidate understands the impact of their input and can talk about the output of their involvement in this element. For example, what changed or came about as a result of what they did?

The essential part of this element is that the opportunity needs to be a new challenge to the candidate. If you have a candidate who has volunteered at a county level before, they should consider choosing something at country/region or UK level.

When candidates consider getting involved at a county level, you need to think about the county itself. For example, in smaller counties, getting involved at a county level may be less challenging for some candidates. But if a smaller county is in a remote area then this may be a challenge depending on the opportunity chosen.

Have a chat with the candidate to help decide what's best for them. Look at whether the option for this element sees them engaging with people that they haven't worked with before, on a new initiative or project, across a larger area than they have experienced working at before.

Each candidate will find different things challenging, so work with them to pick something that stretches them without being impossible!

## Outdoor challenge element one (OC1) - changes

We've updated this element to include a pathway for candidates who don't want to or are unable to do their Going Away With licence or Lead Away/Senior Section permit.

Candidates aged 18 or over can plan a two-night adult residential instead, by following the guidance on our website.

Candidates who are under 18, can either complete the new Lead Away permit for this element or wait until they are 18 to do either an adult residential or complete their Going Away With licence.

If there are candidates who are currently completing the Senior Section permit for their award and won't be finished by programme changeover (Autumn 2019) they can either complete the Lead Away permit or (if aged 18 or over) plan an adult residential. The content of the Lead Away permit is mapped across from the Senior Section permit.

## Outdoor challenge element two (OC2) - changes

We've changed the distances required for expeditions to be on the basis of time rather than distance.

Candidates will do eight hours of activity, with at least four spent travelling. This means candidates pressured to travel distances faster, but instead focus is on what they do each day to meet their aim.

We've also included an option to travel by wheelchair for the expedition.

## Guidance for outdoor activity advisers

If you have a candidate who has already completed the Outdoor challenge element one (this is the only part of the award candidates can complete before starting element two), this can be signed off as completed.

If they've done their Going Away With licence or Lead Away permit/Senior Section permit, you can ask to see proof of their qualification, via their GO record or a certificate.

If they've done an adult residential, you can talk to them about the process they followed and ask to see the adult residential form, risk assessment, or other documents and photos they may have.

If they haven't kept any formal paperwork, talk to them about the process they followed when planning and leading (though candidates should be encouraged to keep information/photographs etc. to be able to demonstrate what they did). They need to demonstrate knowledge of Girlguiding policy and best practise, as well as practical skills such as catering, planning for emergencies, looking after facilities etc. You can also ask them to reflect on what went well and what they'd do differently next time.

Once they have demonstrated this, you can sign off their element one as completed.

## New resources

We've updated the online Queen's Guide award resource with the changes to Service in Guiding element four and Outdoor challenge elements one and two outlined above.

We've also updated the current Queen's Guide award record book. If you've got a book with the old syllabus in, you can print out the new pages from our website - visit the Queen's Guide award page - and stick them in.

