

Please see below a timetable for the new Vetting and Barring Scheme (VBS) which launches on 12 October 2009.

I attach a link to the VBS **Frequently Asked Questions** guidance and also details of the presentations made at the recent roadshows for further information <http://www.isa-gov.org.uk/default.aspx?page=395>.

Q. What will change on 12 October 2009?

1. Increased safeguards will be introduced, further enhancing protection of children and vulnerable adults.
2. The three current barring lists (POCA, POVA and List 99) will be replaced by the creation of two new barred lists administered by the ISA rather than several government departments. Checks of these new lists can be made as part of an Enhanced CRB check.
3. Employers, social services and professional regulators have a duty to refer to the ISA any information about individuals who may pose a risk ensuring potential threats to vulnerable groups can be identified and dealt with.
4. There will be criminal penalties for barred individuals who seek or undertake work with vulnerable groups and for employers who knowingly take them on.
5. The eligibility criteria for Enhanced CRB checks will be extended to include anyone working in a regulated position.

Q. What will change in July 2010?

1. From 26 July 2010 all new entrants to roles working regularly with vulnerable groups and those switching jobs to a new provider within these sectors in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, will be able to register with the ISA and be checked.
2. Individuals will be able to apply for ISA-registration and a CRB check (including an ISA check) on one new application form.
3. When a person becomes ISA-registered they will be continuously monitored and their status reassessed against any new information which may come to light.
4. Employers can subscribe or register an interest in an individual's ISA-registration status to be continuously informed of changes in an employee's registration status.
5. So as not to disrupt normal recruitment over the traditionally busy summer period, the legal requirement for employees to register with the ISA, and employers to check their status, will come into force in November 2010.

Further guidance can be found on the ISA website <http://www.isa-gov.org.uk/> and the CRB website <http://www.crb.gov.uk/>