

# SSSC Open Badges

**Robert Stewart**

Learning and Development Adviser

@DigialiTay | #FSF2017



## Why we chose Open Badges

- Workforce and learning are changing.
- No single institution can prepare someone.
- We need a connected ecosystem of learning.
- We need credentials that evidence personalised, competency based and informal learning.
- We need credentials that people can easily display in the modern world.

## Mozilla Open Badges Project



- Project will run from September 2014 to February 2015.
- We will create a 'badge system'.
- We will start issuing Open Badges by October 2014.
- We will promote our badges and the Open Badges concept.

Timeline



idea designed (OB1) badge system uploaded to WS server	<b>December 2014</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff training for third Open Badge</li> <li>• Promotion of third Open Badge (OB3)</li> <li>• Materials written for masterclass</li> </ul>
idea designed Badges prototype tested (OB1)	<b>January 2015</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Video produced</li> <li>• Promotional materials designed</li> <li>• Further promotion of all three badges</li> <li>• SSSC Open Badges masterclass (to be held in Edinburgh with room for at least 50 attendees)</li> </ul>
signed badge (OB2)	<b>February 2015</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedback gathered from stakeholders</li> </ul>

# Our first Open Badges platform (2014)

**Open Badges Sandbox**  
Pioneering the delivery of Open Badges

Home About Badges available here Getting started Mozilla Backpack

**Apply for Open Badges here**

Learn more

**Latest badges**

- Gold Test Badge**  
Nunc lacus metus sit amet rhoncus ultricies. Class aptent taciti sociosqu ad litora torquent per conubia nostra, per...
- White Test Badge**  
Nunc lacus metus sit amet rhoncus ultricies. Class aptent taciti sociosqu ad litora torquent per conubia nostra, per...
- Black Test Badge**  
Nunc lacus metus sit amet rhoncus ultricies. Class aptent taciti sociosqu ad litora torquent per conubia nostra, per...
- Silver Test Badge**  
Nunc lacus metus sit amet rhoncus ultricies. Class aptent taciti sociosqu ad litora torquent per conubia nostra, per...
- Teal Test Badge**  
Nunc lacus metus sit amet rhoncus ultricies. Class aptent taciti sociosqu ad litora torquent per conubia nostra, per...

View all of our badges

http://badges.sssc.uk.com/awards/3e3569c

Badge Awarded: Smarter Le...

**Scottish Social Services Council**

**SSSC Open Badges**  
Mozilla Open Badges available from the SSSC

Home About Badges available here Getting started Mozilla Backpack

**Badge Awarded: Smarter Learning #SCBD15 Social Reporter**

About Open Badges

Open Badges are digital records of achievements and skills that are tied to assessment and evidence. Unlike paper certificates, Open Badges are manageable online.

Congratulations! The "Smarter Learning #SCBD15 Social Reporter" badge has been awarded to you.

Please choose to [accept](#) or [decline](#) the award.

This is a test badge.

mozilla Backpack

Accept Your Badges

**Accept this badge?** Yes No



**Recipient Name** robert.stewart@sssc.uk.com  
Smarter Learning #SCBD15 Social Reporter

**Description** Awarded to people who cover the #SCBD15 event on social media.

**Criteria** <http://badges.sssc.uk.com/badges/smarters-learning-scbd15-social-reporter>

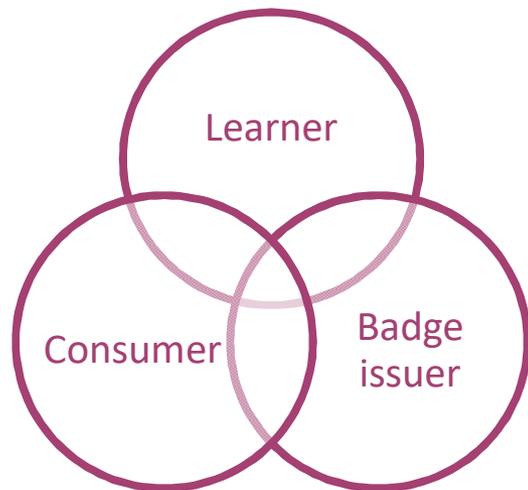
**Issuer** SSSC Open Badges (<http://badges.sssc.uk.com>)

## First badges issued at events





## We discovered that there is something powerful about badges



- Learner – anyone who earns a badge.
- Badge issuer – anyone who issues a badge eg learning providers, employers or public bodies.
- Consumer – anyone who looks at a badge eg prospective employers, clients or peers.



## Benefits for learners

- Recognition for otherwise unrecognised learning.
- Collect evidence of learning 'as you go'.
- Demonstrates commitment to continuous learning.
- Sharable through social media.
- Backs up claims made on their CV, application form or at a job interview.

You need to help learners understand what badges are and what they can do with them. Get people collecting badges now and they will thank you for it later.



## Benefits for badge issuers

- Evidence about impact of your learning materials and events.
- Encourage learners to undertake activities outside of the learning experience.
- Support retention of learning / remediation.
- Encourage people to create positive habits.
- Encourage positive cultures within organisations.
- Badges are free marketing for you. When a learner shares one, your brand, website and subject are promoted.

When a learner shares one of our badges, we see an spike in people applying for it. If you have a topic, issue or cause that you need to promote – this is a good way to do it.



## Benefits for consumers

- More detail about an individual's skills, attributes, interests and values.
- Evidence beyond references.
- You can usually see the evidence submitted by the learner.
- You can be more certain that a badge belongs to the learner than you would a paper certificate or PDF – the badge is unique to their email address.

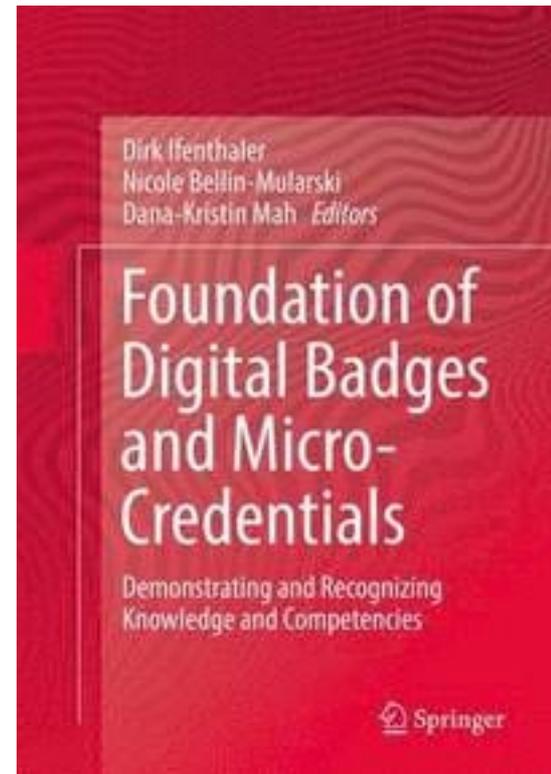
One day, you'll be able to find someone by searching for a combination of badges. Badges will change the way talent is discovered.

## Approach recognised by author

- Featured as a case study in *Foundation of Digital Badges and Micro-Credentials* (Springer Publishing)

**“... one of the most mature programs in workplace badging at this time.”**

Mark Aberdour, author of chapter 11





# Where we are now

[badges.sssc.uk.com](https://badges.sssc.uk.com)



## Lessons learned from our badges pilot

- Most people will not store badges awarded to them in their Mozilla backpack immediately.
- People want to be able to have their badges re-issued to another email address when they change email addresses or employer.
- A number of our stakeholders are unable to access the Mozilla infrastructure with their current ICT setup. Old browsers, firewalls etc
- We need a more powerful badge system to scale-up our distribution of badges to our stakeholders.
- People are excited about the potential of Open Badges. They want to see that potential realised.



# badges.sssc.uk.com

High contrast Low contrast A A A SSSC homepage



## SSSC Open Badges

Home Getting started Register for badges View all badges Your account Contact us Login

### Create a digital record of your achievements and skills

Open Badges are digital certificates recognising learning and achievement. If you can demonstrate that you've learned from materials produced by the Scottish Social Services Council you can earn an Open Badge.

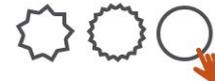
Get started

#### Open Badges from the SSSC



### What are Open Badges?

Open Badges are digital records of achievements and skills that are tied to assessment and evidence. Unlike paper certificates, Open Badges are manageable online.



### Make the most of your Open Badges

Remember to share your badges online as soon as you receive them. You can list badges you have been awarded on social networks, your blog and ePortfolio.

Feedback

## Featured badges

[View all badges](#)



### #FSF2017 Open Badges Fire Starter

This badge will be awarded to people who attend and participate in the Implementing Open Badges in your organisation event on 23 January 2017.



### #lead4all Childminding and leadership 2017 in practice

This Open Badge will be awarded to participants who attend the Improving Leadership in the Childminding Sector event on 21 January 2017 and tell us how they applied what they learned.



### #lead4all Childminding and leadership 2017 participant

This Open Badge will be awarded to all participants who attend the Improving Leadership in the Childminding Sector event on 21 January 2017.



### Leadership: Storytelling

Storytelling is a way of reflecting on what we do in our work and is a means of sharing practice experiences and supporting others to learn and develop. It



### Dementia Ambassador conference 2017 learning

This badge is awarded to people who attend the Dementia Ambassador conference 2017 and submit a reflective



### Dementia Ambassador conference 2017 participant

This badge will be awarded to people who attend and participate in the Dementia Ambassador conference on 3 March 2017.

# Example – application for badge

High contrast Low contrast A A A SSSC homepage

Scottish Social Services Council SSSC Open Badges

Home Getting started View all badges Your account Contact us Logout Robert Stewart

## Badges [View all badges](#)



[Apply now](#)

This Open Badge will be awarded to participants who attend the Improving Leadership in the Childminding Sector event on 21 January 2017 and tell us how they applied what

### #lead4all Childminding and leadership 2017 in practice

This Open Badge will be awarded to participants who attend the Improving Leadership in the Childminding Sector event on 21 January 2017 and tell us how they applied what they learned.

Leadership is fundamental to improving quality outcomes for children and after the event participants should have better knowledge about:

- what leadership means for childminders
- how to recognise their own leadership skills
- how other childminders demonstrate effective leadership
- future developments which support the leadership of the childminding sector.

The event is supported by the Care Inspectorate and the Scottish Childminding Association.

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### Criteria

To earn this badge you will need to:

[Feedback](#)



## Login

I am a returning user and would like to sign in.

Email address / Username

Password

Remember me on this computer?

Login

## Register

I'm a new user and would like to register to apply for badges.

First name

Last name

Job title

Organisation

Email

Password

Confirm your password

Register

## Your account options

---



**Apply for badges**



**View your badges**



**Edit your account**



## Apply for this badge

### Who Cares? Scotland #2021Leader

Please paste in or attach your evidence below to support your application for this badge.

#### Evidence

Please paste your evidence here

Add Attachment

Apply now



## Your badges

---

Please select the badges you would like to download from your badges below.

Download Badges (.zip format)



Submit



### #2 Self-leadership, integrity and personal effectiveness



Approved on 1 January 1970

 Download PDF

 View Award Page

 Send to backpack



### Informed about dementia

This application has been declined.

[Amend your application](#)



## Implementing Open Badges in your organisation

This Open Badge is awarded to people who attend a Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) webinar or session about issuing Open Badges and tell us how they applied what they learned.

**Awarded to**

**Robert Stewart**

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**Scottish Social Services Council**

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**Awarded to**

**Robert Stewart**

**Scottish Social  
Services Council**

**Share to social**



This Open Badge is awarded to people who attend a Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) webinar or session about issuing Open Badges and tell us how they applied what they learned.

Approved on 8 April 2016

## Implementing Open Badges in your organisation

Participants in the webinars and sessions will learn how to get started as an Open Badge issuer. They'll find out what opportunities there are to use badges, the technology needed and how to make sure badges work for their learners.

The webinars and sessions explore:

- the opportunities for Open Badges, where you might use them and why
- the websites and software that allow you to issue Open Badges
- essential things needed for a successful Open Badges programme.

## Learner submitted evidence

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Duis luctus lacus nisl, sed consequat neque vulputate eu. Curabitur tincidunt nulla varius risus pellentesque, id finibus tellus semper. In et leo elementum, sodales enim eu, elementum nisl. Quisque accumsan ultricies ornare. Cras vitae sagittis tortor. Phasellus bibendum massa suscipit velit blandit molestie. Phasellus eget sem ut lacus cursus pharetra et at justo. Mauris a tortor at turpis placerat vestibulum vel ac ante. Maecenas ligula lorem, molestie id ultricies sed, rutrum id elit. Nam in consequat eros. Vestibulum vitae malesuada nibh. Integer auctor libero at urna placerat, sodales maximus quam facilisis.

Aliquam eu maximus metus. Nam laoreet ut odio eget tempus. Sed lectus nisl, tincidunt nec tempor ac, pretium a ante. Aliquam erat volutpat. Nunc et eleifend odio. Pellentesque vitae pharetra nisl, egestas porttitor velit. Etiam non nibh commodo, blandit sem vel, dictum arcu. Ut condimentum, nisl ac efficitur varius, lacus nunc fermentum nibh, nec ultrices lectus ante et ex.

mozilla  
**Backpack**

## Hoorah!

You are about to send **1 badge** to your  
Mozilla Backpack at  
**[backpack.openbadges.org](https://backpack.openbadges.org)**.

Log in to do so.

 [Log in or Sign up](#)



## Edit your account

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### Display name

### Email

### Job title

### Organisation

### Password (Leave blank to keep the current password)

[Update account](#)



# Questions?

Ask me anything...





# Where we are going

[badges.sssc.uk.com](https://badges.sssc.uk.com)





# We are opening up the platform

imaginative ways of...



...experiences programming and completed a  
reflective blog entry to evidence their  
learning.



...experiences programming and has  
completed a reflective account to evidence  
their learning.



## Organisations issuing Open Badges



Get an Open Badge today!

Anyone can earn, manage and display Open Badges across the internet. All you need is an email address.

Apply now

Getting started with

[What you need to know about Open Badges >](#)

Help us improve by telling us

[Feedback](#)

# We are opening up the platform



[Apply now](#)

The Open Badge is automatically awarded to The Lens finalists who have participated in all The Lens finalist workshops. All the MBIs and knowledge developed through these workshops encourage and create the mind set and behaviours of an intrapreneur.

**Badge issuer**  
The Lens



The Lens encourages intrapreneurship in mission driven organisations through an integrated investment fund, competitive process, and development programme.

### The Lens: Intrapreneurship

Finalists in The Lens have the opportunity to attend a series of workshops to help develop them and their idea in preparation of The Lens final. This Open Badge is automatically awarded to The Lens finalists who have participated in all workshops. All the skills and knowledge developed through these workshops encourage and create the mind set and behaviours of an intrapreneur.

The Lens is an innovative programme designed to encourage people to see and think differently. It helps create a culture of intrapreneurship and innovation within mission driven organisations by supporting people to develop their ideas and skills.

To acknowledge the skills that have been developed through The Lens, the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) in partnership with The Lens, along with support from the Social Enterprise Academy, have created a series of badges that are available to people who have been involved with The Lens.



**Criteria**

This Open Badge is automatically awarded to The Lens finalists who have participated in all finalist workshops.

**Prerequisites**

To be awarded this Open Badge, applicants must have received the Impact Open Badges from each of The Lens finalist workshops:

- Corporate strategy thinking workshop impact
- Business modelling and social proposition workshop impact
- Prototyping and testing workshop impact
- Pitching workshop impact

**Evidence**

This Open Badge is automatically awarded.

**Apply for this badge**  
The Lens: Intrapreneurship

[Sign in or register to Apply for this badge](#)



[Apply now](#)

This Open Badge is awarded to graduates of the 'Grow your personal learning network' online course facilitated by The Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services (Iriss), University of Strathclyde and Dundee University.

**Badge issuer**  
Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services



Improving lives through knowledge, evidence and innovation.

### Iriss: Personal learning graduate

This Open Badge is available to people who participate in the 'Grow your personal learning network' online course facilitated by The Institute for Research and Innovation in Social Services (Iriss), University of Strathclyde and Dundee University.

**Criteria**

To earn this badge you will need to:

- be one of the participants from the six-week 'Grow your own personal learning network' course
- tell us about one or two things you learned from the course
- give examples of how you have applied, or intend to apply, the learning to your practice.

**Prerequisites**

None. This badge does not require you to hold any other badges.

**Evidence**

You will need to provide a statement, of about 100 words, about what you learned on the course and how you will apply this to your practice.

If you want to use a blog or ePortfolio entry as evidence, you might find our guide to preparing and publishing your evidence useful. We will also accept short audio or video statements if you prefer these formats.

Remember: the evidence you provide will be viewable by anyone who you show your badge to. Please don't include confidential or private information within your statements.

**Apply for this badge**  
Iriss: Personal learning graduate

[Sign in or register to Apply for this badge](#)



# Organisations will be able to use it to issue badges in the same way that we do

SSSC Open Badges Performance Hi, Robert Stewart

Screen Options Help

## Dashboard

### Stats

Choose issuer  
Scottish Social Services Council

Scottish Social Services Council	
All applications	734
Applications approved	660
Applications pending	29
Applications revoked	1
Applications declined	44
Badges issued	10

Top five issuers

### Badge applications

Choose issuer  
Scottish Social Services Council

Choose type of display  
By month

Month	Applications
Feb	0
Mar	0
Apr	10
May	470
Jun	10
Jul	10
Aug	30
Sep	20
Oct	10
Nov	20
Dec	30
Jan	20

### Most popular badges

Badge name	Times awarded
#CarerLearnShare participant	139
Improving lives: participant	88
Informed about dementia	73
Smarter Learning #SCBD15 Participant	58
Implementing Open Badges in your organisation	44
Learning and Development overview: participant	31
Social learning participant	28
Learning technology test pilot	23
Carer aware in the workplace	23
#CarerLearnShare contributor	21

### Application by type

Choose issuer  
Scottish Social Services Council

Type	Count
Approved	660
Declined	44
Pending	29
Revoked	1

Thank you for creation with WordPress

Version 4.7.1



We need to reach 200,000 social service workers with Open Badges and we can't do that by ourselves. We need your help.



And... we're making the platform available to public sector organisations as well. Technology should not be a barrier to learning.



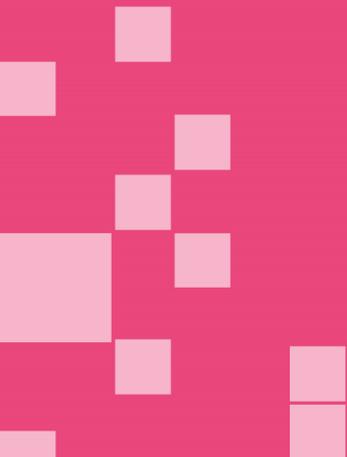
## Other work underway

We're working on enhancements to the SSSC Open Badges platform.

- Profile pages for members – to share all of their badges.
- Better PDF certificates – including evidence URLs.
- Making it possible for an organisation to assess applications for our badges by their staff and award these – ultimate scalability.

# Task

Can you think of Open Badges you might want to pilot on the platform? What support would you need beyond training in how the platform works to realise these ideas?





## **This isn't just about technology**

- It is new way of working.
- It brings us back to what learning is for.
- It helps people become continuous learners.
- It will build a picture of learning on a scale we can barely imagine.
- It is a movement.

Microcredentials will unlock learning and recognition in the same way the microprocessor unlocked the digital world we live in today.

# Thank you!

- Visit [learn.sssc.uk.com/fsf2017](http://learn.sssc.uk.com/fsf2017) to download this presentation
- Follow the **#OpenBadges** hashtag
- Email me [robert.stewart@sssc.uk.com](mailto:robert.stewart@sssc.uk.com)