# **Software Engineer EPA: Professional Discussion Questions & Feedback Matrix**

## **Overview**

This document presents a structured set of professional discussion questions, aligned with the Software Engineer (ST0119 v1.2) apprenticeship assessment plan. Each section covers specific themes and KSB (Knowledge, Skills, and Behaviours) mappings, accompanied by a feedback matrix to support the collection of pass and distinction evidence.

## **Core – The Organisational Context (K7)**

* Q1: Describe the roles and functions involved in delivering a digital technology solution in your organisation.

## Q2: How have you contributed to these roles or worked collaboratively with them?

## **Software Engineer – Underlying Principles (K21, K22, K23)**

* Q3: Describe a project where you applied different techniques across the development lifecycle.
* Q4: What methods do you use at each stage of the software development cycle, and how do you choose them?

## **Core –Technical Solutions (K6, K11, K12, K14, K16)**

* Q5: What common vulnerabilities have you encountered in digital technology solutions, and how did you address them?
* Q6: Explain the development lifecycle and your organisation’s standards in relation to tool and technique choices.
* Q7: How do you manage and analyse data for your technical solutions?
* Q8: Describe the main computer networking concepts you have applied or come across in your work.

## **Core – Leading and Working Together (K8, K9, K10, S7, S8, B4, B6, B7)**

* Q9: How do teams collaborate effectively on digital technology projects in your experience, and what has been your contribution?
* Q10: Which leadership or management principles have you applied, and what impact did they have?

## **Core –Technical Solutions (K13, S4, S9, S10, S11, S12)**

* Q11: Walk through a software component you designed and developed – how did you approach coding, testing, and debugging?
* Q12: What security or resilience techniques have you implemented in your projects?
* Q13: How have you designed and implemented a data product as part of a technology solution?
* Q14: Can you provide an example of data analysis applied in your solution?
* Q14: How did you plan and manage a basic computer network within your project?

## **Software Engineer – Technical Solutions (K24, K28)**

* Q15: How do you interpret design requirements and ensure your implementation meets functional, non-functional, and security criteria?
* Q16: What teamwork tools have you used, and how did they contribute to the project’s success?

## **Software Engineer – Innovation and Response (S20, S21)**

* Q19: Describe a time you had to change your plan or approach due to shifting priorities or unexpected challenges.
* Q20: How did you assess the effectiveness of your chosen software engineering methods or techniques?
* Distinction: How did your actions influence project outcomes or team planning?
* Distinction: Compare this project to alternative approaches you could have taken.

## **Core – Legal, Ethics and Landscape (K19, K20, S15, B1, B2, B8)**

* Q21: What legal or ethical standards have you applied in your work, and how did you ensure compliance for different audiences?
* Q22: How does your organisation support sustainable and inclusive practices in technology, and what has been your role?
* Distinction: How did you justify applying certain legal and ethical standards?
* Distinction: What impact have you observed from sustainable practices, and how would you evaluate them?

## **Software Engineer – Legal, Ethics and Landscape (S23)**

* Q23: How do you keep up to date with professional and academic knowledge in software development, and how have you applied this in practice?