

Examiner's Report

Qualifications Framework

Stage 2: Unit 4 Food Standards Written Examiner Report May 2025

General

Seven candidates sat this paper. The range of marks for the paper was between 55 – 74, with all candidates passing the exam. The average mark was 66%.

Section A

Q1 3 candidates chose this question, with limited understanding of AES strategies and able to explain their role proficiently

Q2 was answered by 1 candidate.

Both question 1 and question 2 demonstrate the need for candidates to identify key definitions within the legislation and code of practice and understand their meanings proficiently in relation to food standards work.

Q3 was a popular question and answered by all candidates. It was answered well and candidates evidently had knowledge and / or experience of sampling.

Q4 was answered by all candidates. It was answered competently but marks were lost for failing to identify other information such as QUID and Irradiation which should be declared in relation to loose and PPDS foods.

Q5 was answered by half of candidates. There is confusion by candidates over the term 'legal name' which is defined in assimilated EU regulation 1169/2011. Clear and concise definitions of customary and descriptive names are also found within the regulation. Candidates are required to have knowledge of Annex VI particulars. Candidates should pay further attention to the provisions of all annexes as they lay down specific requirements for the provision of the mandatory 9 particulars.

Q6 was answered by most candidates and in some cases very well with clear knowledge of the differences between the meaning of the logos. Marks were lost for candidates being unable to identify the legislation under which enforcement powers and sanctions exist and then being unable to identify in sufficient detail what the options for enforcement are.

Section B

In the remaining section all candidates answered questions 7 and 9 .

Q7 required the candidate to negotiate the collection of evidence and information relevant to a consumer complaint. Most candidates obtained mid-way marks. The more proficient respondents were able to logically run through the process of collecting information to enable investigation of the complaint through to investigation.

Candidates should look to identify relevant sections of legislation where powers are found and have a recall of powers extending beyond simply powers of entry. The best answers identified the powers available and the evidence they would collect using these powers to enable full investigation of the complaint.

Most candidates identified the need to determine whether the FBO could establish due diligence during a PACE interview.

It should be noted that establishment of the FBO identity is important here, as is the requirement to determine whether other individuals may need to be interviewed in relation to any offence. The identification of other parties who may be responsible for any offence is often established during a PACE interview.

Q9 The relevant labelling requirements of Prepacked products were identified well in question 9 but there was little distinct clarification around the specific requirements of Regulation 8 which establishes the responsibilities of Food Business Operators depending upon their role in supply. More clarification could have been made between the responsibilities of the importer and those of the distributor regarding the information provided on the foods.