

## Examiner's Report

### Qualifications Framework

### Stage 2: Unit 4 Weights and Measures Examiner Report May 2025

### Written Examiner's Report May 2025

#### General

The results of the May 2025 exam were good, and most of the candidates passed. The challenge appears to be with getting sufficient experience to put this knowledge into practice in the field.

**Q1** Many of the 10-mark questions are definitions that can be found in the harmonised standards or normative documents and if students pay attention to these, they can do well in the section A questions. Most candidates answered the question well and showed a good understanding of the difference between these two types of instruments.

**Q2** This is a definition from EN45501(2015), and candidates answered this well. It is important to understand the nuanced difference between the two types of intervals when verifying and inspecting weighing instruments.

**Q3** It was impressive to see three candidates answer this question. Their answers were very good. It is important to remember that the entire syllabus will not be covered in the "face to face" training and students must be prepared to look at other instruments and legislation to ensure they have the full depth of knowledge.

**Q4** This is a definition from EN45501(2015), and candidates answered this well. It is important to understand the difference between the different types of display that can be on a Non-automatic Weighing Instrument and the legal significance of each.

**Q5** The essence of this question is similar to the others in that it is testing peoples understanding of the multitude of different definitions they must be familiar with. This definition can be found in the Packaged Goods Regulations 2006. This question was answered well.

**Q6** It is important for candidates to understand the different organisations that occupy the legal metrology landscape, their role and importance and how they interact with each other. This question tested if the candidate knew about the role and importance of WELMEC and the functions of the different working groups. All the information necessary to answer this question can be found on the WELMEC website.

## Q7

(a) This question tested whether the candidate understood the relationship between Part 1 of the Act, the relevant schedules, the regulations and the normative documents. The important point of the question is that these weights are not controlled by the Act as they are not owned by a Local Weights and Measures Authority and that 1 tonne weights are outside of schedule 3.

(b) Some candidates successfully explained that 1x200kg was for the zero load (10e) but no one explained that the second 200kg was for the minimum load (20e).

If an instrument has an automatic zero-setting device and test load of 10e must be applied to disable the automatic zero setting (A.4.2.3.2). With 20kg divisions this will be 200kg. When determining the weighing performance (A.4.4.1) the test loads should be applied at minimum, the error change points weights and maximum. On this weighbridge the minimum will be 400kg.

(c) Some answers were very good, but some were disappointing. Being able to test a Non-automatic weighing instrument is an integral part of the skills of an Inspector of Weights and Measures and a candidate must know the standard EN45501 in detail. The requisite clauses can be found in 8.3 of the standard.

(d) This was a simple question that tested whether candidates understood regulation 67 of the Non-automatic Weighing Instruments Regulations. As this is a fundamental part of the roles and responsibilities of an Inspector of Weights and Measures it was disappointing that not all candidates scored well.

(e) This question was testing whether the candidate was aware of and understood the general clause on load cells. This is an important legal concept, and candidates must be aware of this.

## Q8

(a) This was an easy question which asked the candidate to explain all of the legislation that relates to the supply of intoxicating liquor. The answer should have covered the requirements relating to beer, spirits, wine and sparkling wine. Many of the answers were confusing and did not clearly explain the operation of the legislation.

(b) The answers regarding this question ranged from the superficial to the very detailed. Some candidates had an excellent understanding of the legislation around this area and showed a great understanding of the various appeal cases. Nobody mentioned the possibility of the using the CPR'S/ DMCC Act. Nearly everyone was aware of the Code of Practice from the British Beer and Pub Association.

(c) This was an easy question that necessitated candidates being aware of the different definitions of capacity serving measure. Most candidates were aware of brim measures and line measures but did not discuss transfer measures which was disappointing.

(d) This was another simple question and followed on from the previous one. There was still confusion over the difference between UKCA marks and CE marks, and some candidates still believed that the crown mark was a conformity assessment mark which it has not been for many years.

(e) Those that were aware of the guidance on this scored well, those that had not read it gave wrong and confusing answers.

## **Q9**

(a) This question was testing the understanding of the law around units of measures and the schedules of the Weights and Measures Act. No candidates mentioned Schedule 6 of the Act. Units of measures must be more clearly understood by candidates.

(b) This question was testing if the candidate understood the implications of temperature on the delivery of fuel and the law and guidance around standard temperature accounting (STA). If candidates had read and understood the guidance they scored well, if they had not, the answers were not as well answered.

(c) This is testing whether a candidate understands the practical implications of STA for the consumer. It follows on from the previous questions and the marks reflected the candidates understanding of STA.

(d) Candidate are expected to know this in detail as it will inevitably be part of their professional lives. The question was worth 15 marks and the level of detail in the answer should reflect this. Some answers were very good and others were not answered as well.

## **Q10**

(a) This question was determining if the candidate understood the distinction between packages covered by the Packaged Goods Regulations and those that are not. It also tested if candidates understood the schedules of the Weights and Measures Act. There are a wide range of products in these schedules and candidates must be aware of the type of products that it covers.

(b) This is an easy question that asks the candidate to outline the packers rules in the Packaged Goods Regulations. This is such an important element of the packaged goods regulations that it is useful if a candidate can accurately state them.

(c) No candidate picked up that the packages were not marked and the relevant requirements in Regulation 5(2) would have effect. Candidates must read the question in detail.

(d) The question was well answered and most people picked up that the quantity marking should be indelible, easily legible and visible in normal conditions and that the colour differential between the marking and the packaging must be sufficiently contrasting.

(e) This was asking candidates to interpret the figures that have been given in the question. All candidates identified that the mean of the product was below the nominal and that reference test would be failed.

(f) The range of answers varied from the excellent to the very disappointing. No one noted the defence under Regulation 19(3)