

Examiner's Report

Qualifications Framework

Stage 2: Unit 4 Weights and Measures Professional Interview Examiner Report November 2025

Two scenarios were used for the November 2025 professional interviews relating to a short measure complaint and the routine inspection of a forecourt. Five questions are asked per scenario, and the scenarios are marked out of 100. Not all questions are allocated 20 marks.

17 candidates sat the exam and 15 passed. The lowest mark was 31 and the highest was 73.

A series of training sessions were offered again in the first half of the year to prepare candidates for this exam. Candidates were given tips on exam technique and got a flavour of the kind of questions that could come up. The mock exam provides valuable experience in sitting a professional interview.

Comments on the scenarios:

Short Measure:

- Included in this question was a sale by imperial measure. No one addressed the fact that the trader still had bags made up and marked 1lb. And only one or two candidates would inspect the equipment used to make up those packs. I also expected information on which units are legal for trade, and why.
- When asked what advice would be given, the answer needs to be in that format. i.e. tailored so that a trader would understand. Saying that a measure should be stamped and approved may not mean much to the average store owner.
- Testing of working standard length measures was not explained well
- One question asked whether a particular length measure could be used by the trader. While yes was the correct answer, marks were lost by not fully explaining why, as asked in the question.

Forecourt - overall this was well answered with only a few points to note:

- When asked how the measures are tested before use, no one mentioned cleaning them first. Few candidates referenced the correct legislation.
- When answering questions about testing the instrument, candidates tended to give answers for initial verification, not a routine inspection.
- There was a picture shown of missing seals to the calibration switch and candidates were asked what action they would take. Very little was mentioned about investigating how the circumstances came about, or if they didn't feel much investigation was necessary why that was the case.

There was less of a scatter-gun approach this year which I think contributed to the higher marks overall, but it is worth reiterating the advice from May:

Candidates should not try to tell me everything they know about a certain subject and hope that some of the information is correct and relevant. Better marks are obtained by pausing to consider the situation and providing appropriate responses or solutions. This is, after all, how we would conduct ourselves when conducting inspections, investigating complaints, and interacting with traders.

Additionally, please remember to treat it like the interview it is. A short pause to reflect is fine, but very long silences (> 1minute and counting in some cases) is probably not how the interview would go if conducted in person.