

## Examiner's report

### CTSI Professional Competency Framework

#### Stage 2: Weights and Measures Professional Interview Examiner's Report May 2021

##### General

A total of 4 candidates sat the professional interview this year, 3 achieved the pass mark.

Candidates lost easy marks in the questions that required them to give some advice to the trader. Familiarisation with standard sources of trader advice would provide the best preparation for these types of question; most candidates gave an academic answer rather than practical solutions that could be implemented by the trader. It is also important to answer the question asked. All questions were on screen for the duration of the interview so there should be no ambiguity on the type of equipment that candidates were to talk about. It should also be noted by future candidates that better marks are achieved by putting yourself in the situation presented and explaining what you would actually do, not what you know.

##### LFMI Complaint:

This question involved logically talking through the process of receiving a complaint and the steps taken to investigate it at the forecourt. Candidates were required to demonstrate that they knew what information to gather, how to test a petrol pump, and how to explain the outcome to a consumer following a visit to the site. This type of complaint comes in fairly frequently and could well be given to a newly qualified officer to investigate.

##### Bakery Visit:

Candidates lost marks by not answering the question posed, talking instead about checkweighers despite being clearly asked about a scale. This question included two questions where clear advice was to be given to the trader, but the trader would have been in no way enlightened as to suitable equipment and what he would need to do to comply with the Packaged Goods Regulations. Candidates should be able to translate their knowledge into good practical advice for traders.

A good way for candidates to approach this exam is to think about what they would do and say in the scenario presented. So, once again, I feel it is worth reiterating this guidance:

In preparing for the Professional Interview, the candidate should refer to the CTSI Professional Interview guidance, which states 'the purpose of the professional interview is to apply your knowledge of process and requirements, to the assessment being asked'. Not all of the questions asked will seek to draw from the candidate legal definitions or technological detail; the questions taken as a whole will aim to explore whether the candidate is competent in evaluating the scenario presented, which includes practical considerations. There may not be one set answer for a question, but an expectation that the candidate can discuss the issues presented to them and apply problem solving skills in order to demonstrate sufficient metrological competence.