

Examiner's report

CTSI Professional Competency Framework

Stage 2: Investigations Professional Interview Examiner's Report May 2021

General

Sixteen candidates attempted the Investigations professional interviews in this tranche. Four scenarios were written with associated questions. These scenarios are based on the syllabus for Investigations and do not all focus on the same areas, for example not all of the scenarios required the candidate to discuss the Consumer Rights Act. The candidates are presented with the scenario and they have ten minutes to read the scenario and make notes. The scenarios then remain on the screen as the 5 individual questions are asked, all of which relate to the particular scenario.

The interviews took place virtually via MS Teams, with relevant and appropriate controls for exam conditions in place. However, there is an element of trust in a professional examination which is delivered remotely. The interviews were all recorded via Ms Teams allowing later viewing, marking and moderation.

Twelve candidates passed the interviews and four candidates failed. Marks ranged from 78% - 26%. Candidates who passed the interviews clearly answered the questions that were asked, applying their knowledge to the scenario they were asked to consider. Candidates who veered off topic and discussed matters not relating to the question or scenario did not score well.

Below is an example scenario and the questions relating to it.

Example Scenario:

You are the Officer in Charge of an investigation into a group of individuals known as Digging-it-up, who have been targeting elderly and vulnerable residents in a quiet cul-de-sac with unnecessary and overpriced gardening work.

Questions Asked during the interview:

1. What enquiries will you make to ensure you have a full understanding of the matters?
2. Once you have a full understanding of the matters, how will you proceed with your investigation?
3. The victims are primarily elderly and vulnerable. What will you need to consider to ensure you secure best evidence from them?
4. What are your powers in this situation and how will you use them?
5. How will you have ensured you have complied with your authority's enforcement policy?

Knowledge to be demonstrated
Q1 Knowledge of intelligence environment in the UK, NIM, IOM and open/closed source materials and how to use intelligence to direct an investigation
Q2 Knowledge of how to progress an investigation, who, what, where, when, why – taking statements
Q3. Knowledge of identifying vulnerable witnesses and ABE interviews to secure best evidence from them. Knowledge of victim personal/impact statements
Q4. Knowledge of enforcement powers, in particular Consumer Rights Act 2015
Q5. Knowledge of Enforcement policies and relevant codes

The above table illustrates what the examiner was looking for in the responses to the questions.