

The Strategy for the Trading Standards Qualification Framework

An outline strategy for adoption by the Trading Standards Institute, its branches and sections is set out below:

- review the current format and content of the framework to ensure that it meets the requirements of the above vision and does not present unnecessary barriers to its achievements.
- engage with LACORS and other employer representatives in order to secure the agreement, support and commitment of the regional groups of local authority and Northern Ireland Trading Standards Service to help deliver the necessary assessment regimes.
- work with the regional groups of trading standards services in order to establish and support a viable assessment and verification of skills process in the workplace.
- identify examples of good practice in the use of the framework and organise seminars, roadshows and written information to demonstrate to local authority heads of service the benefits of the framework.
- develop e-learning facilities, either in house to in collaboration with other providers, as a means of supporting the widespread and cost effective delivery of the framework.
- engage with LBRO and support its emphasis on developing a world class enforcement regime, supportive of legitimate business, to encourage local authorities to invest in training and demonstrate that all officers of the trading standards serves are trained and competent.
- seek and utilise opportunities presented by the revision of consumer legislation being undertaken by central government to promote the importance of ensuring all officers delivering trading standards services are trained and competent.
- develop the framework such that it is of increasing use and value to other public and private sector organisations in developing and ensuring the competence of staff.
- secure the help and commitment of the branches and sections to deliver the vision and use the expertise of their members to maintain and deliver the framework, keeping it up to date at all times.
- integrate the framework with the continuous professional development process to ensure continued competence of all staff delivering the trading standards service.