

Examiner's report

Qualifications Framework

Stage 2: Food

Written Examiner's Report May 2024 Cycle

General

The written food exam paper this year, as in previous years, tested candidates both on their knowledge of applicable food law and on how they would proceed with various scenarios.

These scenarios would include the use of various types of interventions, sanctions and criminal investigations. In line with the movement of food information regulation to make use of civil sanctions, the use of civil sanctions appeared in a number of questions.

Candidates appeared well versed in the use of these sanctions, whereas the scenarios involving the use of criminal sanctions were often less well answered.

Overall, the pass rate on this cycles written exam was high and reflects well on both the candidates' application and of support from their Services.

Section A

These questions were answered well by most candidates, demonstrating good knowledge of sampling, PPDS requirement, claims and QUID (although some candidates lost a mark on the QUID question by failing to give their working out calculations...)

Section B

Q7

On providing a trade advice leaflet was answered well by those candidates who chose this question, with candidates remembers to format the answer as a leaflet.

Q8

was less well answered indicating a lack of knowledge or experience of criminal investigations and evidence gathering in some of those candidates who chose to answer it.

Q9

The civil sanctions asked of in this question were generally answered well, whereas the issue of "Use By" food was not so well addressed by the majority of candidates.

Q10

Was not answered by the majority of candidates, but those who did answer it generally fared well, although some did struggle with the follow up sanction available.