

# Local Authority Capacity and Capability: Annex C Infographics of qualification pathways

Any irregularities relating to wages are as a result of a 'single point in time' sample of available job vacancies with wages varying by location. As such the sample may not be representative of the wages of current employees within the sector. The first infographic details the qualification route for Trading Standards and Environmental Health professionals. The following two infographics contain the Environmental Health and Trading Standards career routes respectively. The qualifications that feature in the top 2 levels of both of these infographics are examples of the typical qualification route that could be taken prior to entering the sector. Alternative routes are possible and will feature the apprenticeships and professional courses detailed on the first infographic.

## Qualification Pathway to Trading Standards/ Environmental Health Career

Level 1/2) in Food Safety	
Level 1-2 qualifications equivalent to GCSEs. Not aimed at new entrants, rather as induction training for employees. No specific requirements.	
Level 3 in Food Safety	
Level 3 qualifications equivalent to A levels. Also not aimed at new entrants, aimed at managers in food sector. No specific requirements.	
Level 4 Regulatory Compliance Officer (RCO) Apprenticeship*/Trading Standards Practitioner Certificate	
Equivalent to a 1-year foundation degree. Requires GCSEs (Level 2) in Maths and English and any additional employer requirements. Graduates only need to complete the two-hour exam to gain CTSI Trading Standards Practitioner Certificate (TSPC). This course is only available in England.	
Level 5 Food Premises Inspection Higher Certificate/ Trading Standards Practitioner Diploma (TSPD)	
Equivalent to a 2 year foundation degree. Requires a Higher Education Level 4 course in a related discipline. Need to be employed and supported by a Local Authority Environmental Health department. Graduates of this course only need to complete 'top up modules' to gain the Higher Certificate in Food Control (Level 5) which can lead to becoming a Registered Food Safety Practitioner with CIEH. CTSI qualification as a TSPD requires unit 4 food and feed completion needed to deliver OFFC**	
Degree (Apprenticeships) in Environmental Health* (Level 6)	Trading Standards Professional Apprenticeship* (Level 6)/CQF/TSAP
Requires BBC-ABC at A level or equivalent, often including a science subject. The first 2 years of the course cover content that would be covered by the equivalent Level 4 or 5 courses. Degree is accredited by CIEH, so graduates of this courses are eligible for Registered Environmental Health Practitioner status. Degree apprenticeships are currently only available in England.	Requires Level 2 Maths and English. Graduates eligible for the Chartered Training Standards Practitioner status. Graduates of RCO Level 4 apprenticeship only need to do the second 2 years of the course. Apprentices completing food and feed modules to submit themselves to CTSI's Qualification Framework assessments.
Masters Degree in Environmental Health and Professional Qualifications*	
Masters: 2:1 in a science-based degree (or 2:2 with experience). Often used for professionals already holding a level 6 qualification to qualify as an EHP. Degree is accredited by CIEH, so graduates of this courses are eligible for Registered Environmental Health Practitioner status.	
Professional Qualifications*	
CIEH qualifications: Advanced Professional Certificate in Food Hygiene and Standards Control (level 5). This can be a stand-alone course or can be incorporated as part of an accredited Environmental Health degree. This can lead to becoming a Registered Food Safety Practitioner with CIEH.	
CTSI qualifications: CTSI's Qualification Framework (CQF) with three levels: TSPC, TSPD and TSAP corresponding to Level 4,5 and 6 qualifications respectively. Level of entry required for CQF is generally the qualification below. E.g. TSPC (level 4) applicants will need a level 3 qualification (equivalent to A levels)	

\*These courses are not specific to food and feed regulation. Trading Standards and Environmental Health professionals regulate areas such as housing, health and safety, product safety and many others. Graduates of these courses can specialise in these sectors instead of food and feed regulation if they choose to.

\*\*Official food and feed controls

## Environmental Health Job Roles – Food and Feed

<b>Level 5 Food Premises Inspection Higher Certificate</b>  Equivalent to a 2-year foundation degree. Requires a Higher Education Level 4 course in a related discipline. Need to be employed and supported by an LA Environmental Health department.	<b>Higher Certificate in Food Control (Level 5)</b>  No formal qualifications, although Level 3/4 in Food Hygiene from CIEH desirable. Often pursued by LA employees or those with experience in the food industry already.
<b>Degree (Apprenticeship) in Environmental Health* (Level 6)</b>  Requires BBC-ABC at A level or equivalent, often including a science subject. The course covers topics that would be covered by the equivalent Level 4 or 5 foundation courses.	
<b>Environmental Health Officer/Practitioner/Professional (Entry Level)</b>  Salary range: £27,807-£43,887 (depends on location and experience). Qualifications: Environmental Health accredited by CIEH and willingness to gain professional CIEH qualification. Experience required varies from qualifications only to previous experience in food regulation.	
<b>Senior Environmental Health Officer/Practitioner/Professional</b>  Salary range: £37,261-£49,545 (location dependent). Qualifications: Degree in Environmental Health or equivalent and professionally qualified with CIEH. Generally, 3 years minimum experience as a Practitioner, specialising in food regulation, some LA also require managerial experience.	
<b>Principal Environmental Health Officer/ Environmental Health Team Manager/ Lead Practitioner /Professional</b>  Salary range: £37,261-£53,996 (location dependent). Qualifications: Degree in Environmental Health or equivalent and professionally qualified with CIEH. All require both experience as a Practitioner specializing in food and management experience. Expected number of years is 8-10 minimum, with 3-5 years as a Practitioner and 5 as a Senior Practitioner.	

N.B. Environmental Health Officers/Practitioners also regulate sectors such as housing, environmental pollution & H&S. They may specialise in food, be a general Environmental Health Officer/Practitioner or specialise in another discipline. Delivery of food and feed official controls are only one aspect of the role.

## Trading Standards / Food Standards/Feed Job Roles

<b>Level 4 Regulatory Compliance Officer Apprenticeship*</b>  Equivalent to a 1-year foundation degree. Requires GCSEs (Level 2) in Maths and English and any additional employer requirements. Graduates also only need to complete the two- hour exam to gain CTSI Trading Standards Practitioner Certificate (TSPC).	<b>Trading Standards Practitioner Certificate (TSPC – Level 4)*</b>  Available to students who have successfully completed the required elements or transitioned into the CQF at this level.
<b>Trading Standards Professional Apprenticeship* (Level 6)</b>  Requires Level 2 Maths and English. Graduates eligible for the Chartered Training Standards Practitioner status. Graduates of RCO Level 4 apprenticeship only need to do the second 2 years of the course. Apprentices completing food and feed modules to submit themselves to CTSI's Qualification Framework assessments.	<b>Trading Standards Practitioner Diploma (TSPD – Level 5)*</b>  Available to students who have acquired TSPC or successfully completed the required elements or transitioned into the CQF at this level.
	<b>Trading Standards Advanced Practitioner (TSAP – Level 6)*</b>  Available to all students who have acquired TSPD or transitioned into the CQF and successfully completed all required elements at this level. The diploma in trading standards is now the TSAP or equivalent.
<b>Trading Standards Officer / Practitioner/ Food Standards/Feed Officer/Professional (Entry Level)</b>  Salary range: Permanent £30,152-£39,493. Qualifications: all require TSPD, TSAP or equivalent, some require a university degree too. Experience: Ask for 'relevant' experience and qualifications but timeframe not explicit.	
<b>Senior Trading Standards Officer/ Practitioner / Senior Food Standards/Feed Officer/Professional</b>  Salary range: £37,261-£43,516. Qualifications: Degree or equivalent in Environmental Health or Trading Standards and competent in food standards. Experience: Normally 2 -3years minimum of post qualification experience in specialist area.	
<b>Lead Trading Standards Officer / Principal Trading Standards Officer/Professional</b>  Salary range: £36,858-£42,517. Qualifications: Professional trading standards qualification, TSPD or equivalent. Experience: Experienced as a Trading standards Practitioner and management experience. Timeframe not explicit but likely to be 7-10 years. 2-3 years minimum as a TSO or equivalent and 3-4 minimum as a Senior TSO or equivalent.	

\*N.B. Like Environmental Health, food and feed regulation is only a part of Trading Standards' remit. TSOs/ Food standards/Feed officers may specialise in food/feed or specialise in another area as well.