

**30 June 2016****Report and Statistical Return for the Quarter  
Ending March 2016**

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**Purpose of the report**

To inform the Committee of the work of the Joint Metrology Laboratory for the quarter ending March 2016.

**Metrology Laboratory – Operational**

1. The laboratory continues to support the five authorities of the Tyne and Wear region offering specialist services, equipment and personnel.
2. Internal verification of DCATS portfolios for trading standards candidates continues with a Gateshead employee and continuing supervision was provided for a Northumberland employee.
3. Disposal of illegal tobacco was conducted for the authorities.

**Contribution to National Objectives**

4. The manager was asked by Chartered Trading Standards Institute to represent North East Trading Standards Association region for participating in a review of the professional qualification for trading standards.

**Aid and Advice to Industry and Organisations**

5. Local weighing machine repairers, chemical, pharmaceutical and aeronautical companies continue to submit their test weights, scales and length measures for calibration and equipment hired to weighing machine repairers.
6. The laboratory has been asked by industry to supply new weights for various customers and this has been facilitated.
7. A number of old cast iron weights were donated to Northumbria Police Diving team after a request from them. These weights are to be used to hold a diver stationary on river bottoms whilst they are conducting searches.
8. The Diving team also brought their vehicles and boats to the weighbridge to have accurate weights for their equipment.

## **EC Verifications**

9. During this period, 1 request for EC verification was received resulting in 1 EC approved filling machine being verified for trade use.

## **UKAS Calibrations**

10. Weights continue to be submitted for calibration and the issue of UKAS Calibration Certificates for 823 weights. The laboratory was successfully audited by UKAS in January which continues the laboratory's accreditation and no discrepancies or improvements were found.

## **Toy and Consumer Safety**

11. Only a few Samples were submitted by the authorities and were found to be compliant with legislation.

## **Electrical Safety**

12. Samples for testing were submitted to the laboratory and these again consisted of mobile phone chargers and were found to be non-compliant with the relevant legislation.

## **Cigarette Samples**

13. A number of samples of cigarettes, namely 23, were submitted to the laboratory for reduced ignition propensity and were found to be non-compliant with legislation.

## **Statistical Return**

14. The statistical return for the period January to March 2016 is contained within Appendix 1.

## **Recommendation**

15. The Committee is asked to note the report and statistical information.

**METROLOGY LABORATORY**  
**STATISTICAL RETURN FOR THE QUARTER ENDING March 2016**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Income</b>
S.74 (4) (b) verifications S73107	45	564.49
UKAS Accredited calibrations S73074-01	823	13633.23
Toy / Electrical tests S74014	-	-
Weighbridge S73104-01	284	1251.67
Hire of weights S73104	-	-
PAT testing S76034-01		2719.96
EC Verification	1	141.55
RIP testing S73104	23	5200.00
Income (excl. VAT)		23 510.90
VAT		4702.29
<b>Total Income (inc VAT)</b>		<b>280213.19</b>