

Legal Profession Admission Board

March 2022

Succession

Examiner's Comments

General observations:

1. As the examination was a confidential examination, these comments cannot identify the specific issues in the questions. The examination covered the majority of course topics; including topics covered in the compulsory assignment.
2. The examination contained 5 questions in total, with candidates having to answer any 4 of those questions. Each of the 4 questions was worth 20 marks. The questions ranged from factual based scenarios to short answer questions; which allowed for the variety of topics to be covered. Each question either contained a longer answer question together with multiple short answer questions; or alternatively, a series of shorter answer questions. Each question had a breakdown of marks, and each candidate was required to answer the question they attempted in full.
3. In answering the questions, candidates generally displayed an understanding of the course content. However, the following matters arose:
 - a. Many responses, particularly to the longer factual based questions, contained sufficient references to legislation and case law; however, this approach, lead to an inadequate discussion of the issues needed to be considered to thoroughly answer the question asked.
 - b. Some responses contained a "for and against" argument which showed a more thorough understanding, and particularly, of the discretionary nature of the area of law.
 - c. In some cases, it was evident that candidates focused more time on the short-answer questions and left minimal time for the longer questions (which attracted more marks).
 - d. There was one question which included an area of law also addressed in the compulsory assignment. Many of the responses provided did not show an increase in the understanding of that particular area of law from the time of the assignment until the examination.

4. Out of the 53 candidates who sat the examination, 43 received a mark of 40 or above (out of a possible 80 marks). The highest mark awarded for the examination was 70. The highest course mark was 87. Overall, marks awarded for the course were reflective on the examination results.

 5. The course this semester was run remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic as there were various restrictions in place. The examination was largely completed online, with only a small number of students completing the examination in person.
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