



## **P1 Professional Skills**

*Marking Criteria v1.1*

*November 2025*

## Marking Criteria

| Requirement                                   | Requirement descriptor                                                    | Fail descriptor                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Pass descriptor                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Distinction descriptor                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1. Introduction - Project Objectives</b>   | <i>Clarity, completeness and relevance of introduction and objectives</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No/limited clarity and relevance.</li> <li>A poorly stated purpose.</li> <li>Little or no appropriate explanation of the context / problem / opportunity.</li> <li>No evidence of a clear rationale for undertaking the project.</li> </ul>                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Satisfactory/good clarity of stated purpose and relevance to the sector/organisation is evident, with a justified rationale and an explanation of the context / problem / opportunity.</li> </ul>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excellent evidence of clarity of purpose, with a detailed, relevant, justifiable rationale and explanation of the context / problem / opportunity.</li> </ul>                            |
| <b>2. Introduction – Research Methodology</b> | <i>Evidence and understanding of research methods</i>                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No/limited evidence of research methods.</li> <li>No/limited discussion or justification of approach to research methods.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Satisfactory/good evidence of research methods.</li> <li>Satisfactory/good discussion or justification of approach to research methods and appropriate to the project.</li> </ul>                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excellent evidence of research methods.</li> <li>Excellent discussion or justification of approach to research methods and appropriate to the project.</li> </ul>                        |
| <b>3. Conducting Research</b>                 | <i>Explanation of and quality of data collection</i>                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No/limited collection of data and/or poorly identified data.</li> <li>Explanation lacks structure and/or limited explanation against unclear or inappropriate criteria, mostly descriptive.</li> <li>No/limited coverage of relevant literature.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Satisfactory/good approach to collection of data with acceptable explanation of techniques.</li> <li>Relevant literature offers some additional understanding of the problem/ opportunity / development.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excellent approach to collection of data with critical analysis of techniques.</li> <li>Relevant literature informs and adds to the understanding of the problem/ opportunity</li> </ul> |

| Requirement                               | Requirement descriptor                                               | Fail descriptor                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Pass descriptor                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Distinction descriptor                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>4. Analysis and Discussion</b>         | <i>Evidence of critical analysis and discussion of findings</i>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No/limited evidence of findings or critical analysis.</li> <li>Discussion shows no/limited learning from the evidence presented.</li> </ul>                                                                                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Satisfactory/good evidence of critical analysis of findings.</li> <li>Includes satisfactory/good discussion of implications of the findings and reflection on the strengths and weaknesses of the research.</li> </ul>                                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excellent evidence of critical analysis of findings.</li> <li>Includes excellent discussion of implications of the findings and reflection on the strengths and weaknesses of the research.</li> </ul>                                   |
| <b>5. Conclusions and Recommendations</b> | <i>Evidence of conclusions and identification of recommendations</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No/limited evidence of justifiable conclusions with no/limited links to the project.</li> <li>No/limited recommendations</li> <li>Opportunities for further development.</li> </ul>                                                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Satisfactory/good attempt to use evidence to reach appropriate conclusions that relate to the project.</li> <li>Conclusions may be general and uncritical</li> <li>Satisfactory/good attempt at suggesting recommendations/opportunities for further development.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excellent evidence of clear conclusions that relate to the project and which are justified by the evidence.</li> <li>Identifies and makes clear and persuasive recommendations/opportunities for further development.</li> </ul>         |
| <b>6. Clarity and Presentation</b>        | <i>Clarity of the report, presentation and referencing</i>           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No/limited use of appropriate graphics/charts.</li> <li>Poor command of spelling and grammar.</li> <li>Inappropriately structured, resulting in difficulty in understanding.</li> <li>Poor evidence of referencing and/or citation.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Satisfactory use of graphics/charts.</li> <li>Good command of spelling and grammar.</li> <li>Most sections have a logical flow and structure.</li> <li>Satisfactory/good evidence of referencing and citation (there may be some omissions or inconsistencies).</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excellent use of graphics/charts.</li> <li>Excellent command of spelling and grammar.</li> <li>A logical, clear and coherent structure.</li> <li>Excellent evidence of citation, with consistent and appropriate referencing.</li> </ul> |