

# Qualification factsheet

## L6M4

### Future Strategic Challenges for the Profession [CORE]

Exams for this module will now be available in each exam series. Studying and assessment for this module is very different to any others in our suite of qualifications, we strongly recommend that you take this as your final exam.

#### What to expect in the exam

You will be expected to conduct research based on a pre-released theme. During the exam you will be required to construct answers to previously unseen questions during a closed book 2 hour exam. We will provide the topic theme one calendar month prior to the exam.

#### What the examiner expects

You are required to demonstrate an understanding of the changing needs and requirements that an organisation expects from their Procurement and Supply function, what these requirements are, and what the challenges and opportunities might mean to the profession.

#### More supporting resources

We recommend the following resources:

- Resources previously purchased to refresh and update learning as appropriate.
- Current and back catalogue copies of Supply Management Magazine.
- CIPS online Knowledge Catalogue.

#### To help with your preparations here's what you will need to know

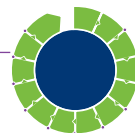
Everything you have learned leading up to this module will inform you about the role of procurement and supply and how it contributes to organisational success.



Important modules to consider reviewing again as underpinning knowledge are the following CORE modules:

#### Level 4

A review of all modules in the Level 4 Diploma which all follow the procurement cycle



#### Level 5 [core modules only]

[cips.org/learn/qualifications/advanced-diploma-in-procurement-and-supply/](https://cips.org/learn/qualifications/advanced-diploma-in-procurement-and-supply/)

#### Level 6 [core modules only]

[cips.org/learn/qualifications/professional-diploma-in-procurement-and-supply/](https://cips.org/learn/qualifications/professional-diploma-in-procurement-and-supply/)

### Here's what you can do to prepare yourself for this exam

- Develop your knowledge and research skills to be able to:
  - source relevant literature
  - assess the validity of literature
  - justify arguments (evidence based approach) in a closed book exam environment
- You should try CIPS sample exam questions for this module to prepare what is required in the examination

### Understanding how to approach a research based exam

How to Research (Open Up Study Skills) by Loraine Blaxter is a recommended research skills text book or you can use an online research skills website to understand the 'research process' to ensure a logical approach is taken to researching a specific theme.



### Syllabus for L6M4 Future Strategic Challenges for the Profession

You will be examined on the learning outcomes and assessment criteria below.

<b>Module purpose</b>	On completion of this module, learners will be able to evaluate the changing needs and requirements for the procurement and supply function and assess the future challenges for the profession.
<b>Module aim(s)</b>	The volatile global environment poses a threat to traditional concepts of international trade and presents strategic challenges to the procurement and supply function and profession. Strategic procurement and supply leaders require knowledge of the present challenges for their function and profession, and prepare themselves for the future strategic challenges that they will undoubtedly be faced with. This module is designed to challenge procurement and supply leaders to look ahead and to consider the future strategic challenges for them and their profession.
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>1.0 Understand the changing needs and requirements for procurement and supply</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1.1 Assess what the future strategic procurement and supply function will look like</li><li>1.2 Contrast the future skills and expectations of strategic procurement and supply leaders</li><li>1.3 Contrast the influence of emerging business and markets on the procurement and supply function</li></ul> <b>2.0 Understand the future challenges for the procurement and supply profession</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>2.1 Evaluate the emerging role and influence of innovation and technology on the profession</li><li>2.2 Assess the changing boundaries and shape of the profession</li><li>2.3 Evaluate future challenges for the profession</li></ul>



### Sample Exam Questions

**Question Theme:** Sustainability

- **Question 1:**  
Discuss the impact of sustainability on the future skills and expectations placed on strategic procurement and supply leaders. [25 marks]  
*Learning Outcome: 1 • Assessment Criteria: 1.2*
- **Question 2:**  
Discuss how sustainability will affect the changing boundaries and shape of the procurement and supply profession as a whole. [25 marks]  
*Learning Outcome: 2 • Assessment Criteria: 2.2*