

Scaled Back – the importance of Legal Metrology to UK society

Iain Hoey
CTSI Lead Officer

Weights and Measures Act 1985

ELIZABETH II

c. 72



Weights and Measures Act 1985

1985 CHAPTER 72

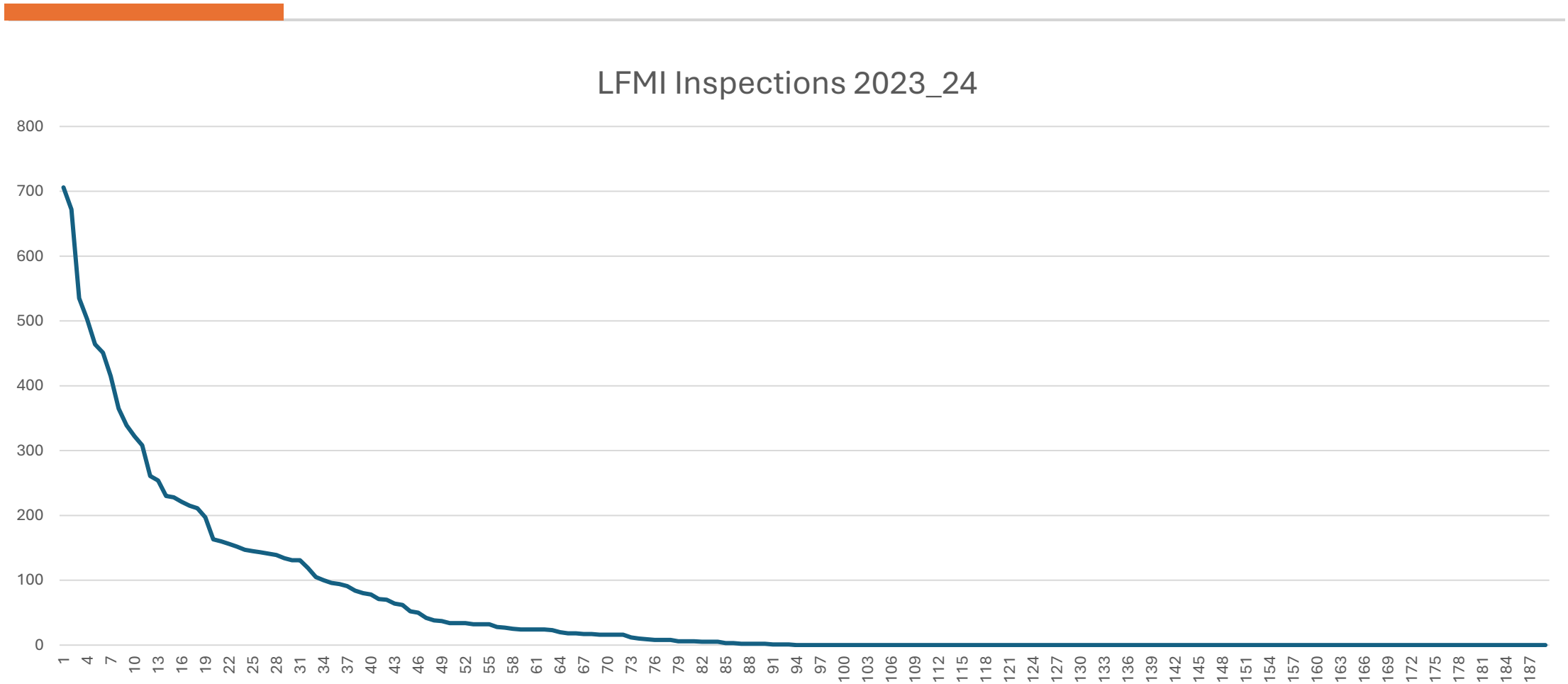
An Act to consolidate certain enactments relating to
weights and measures. [30th October 1985]

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and
with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and
Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament
assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

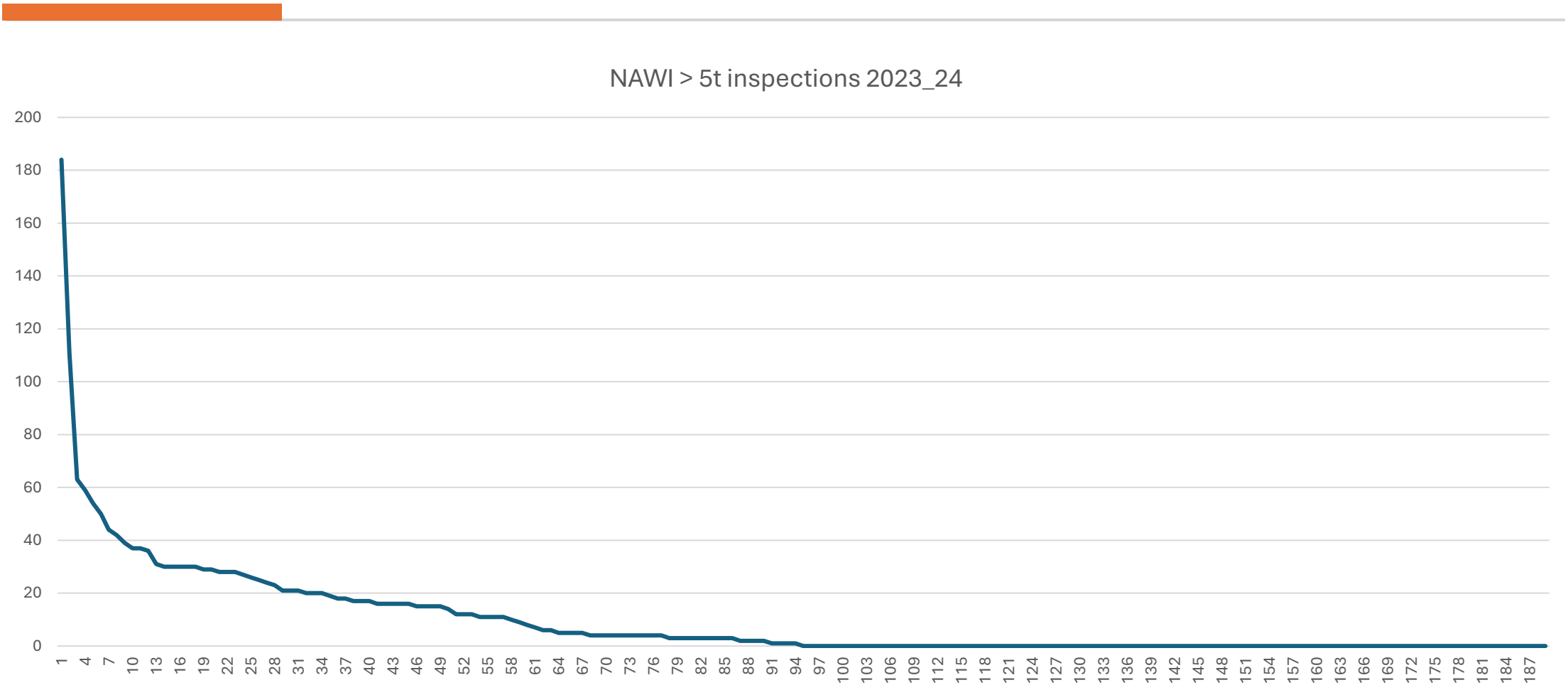
PART I

UNITS AND STANDARDS OF MEASUREMENT

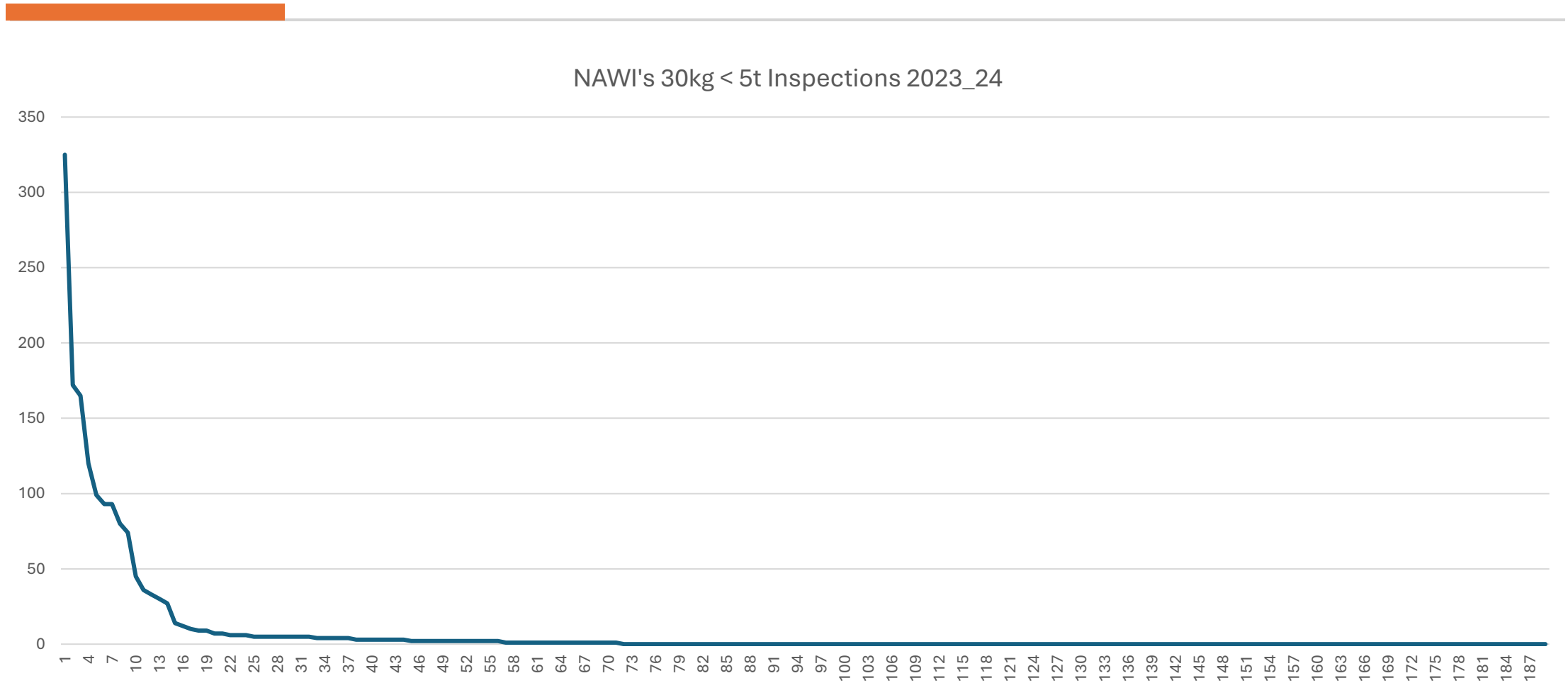
2023_24 LFMI Inspections by Local Authorities



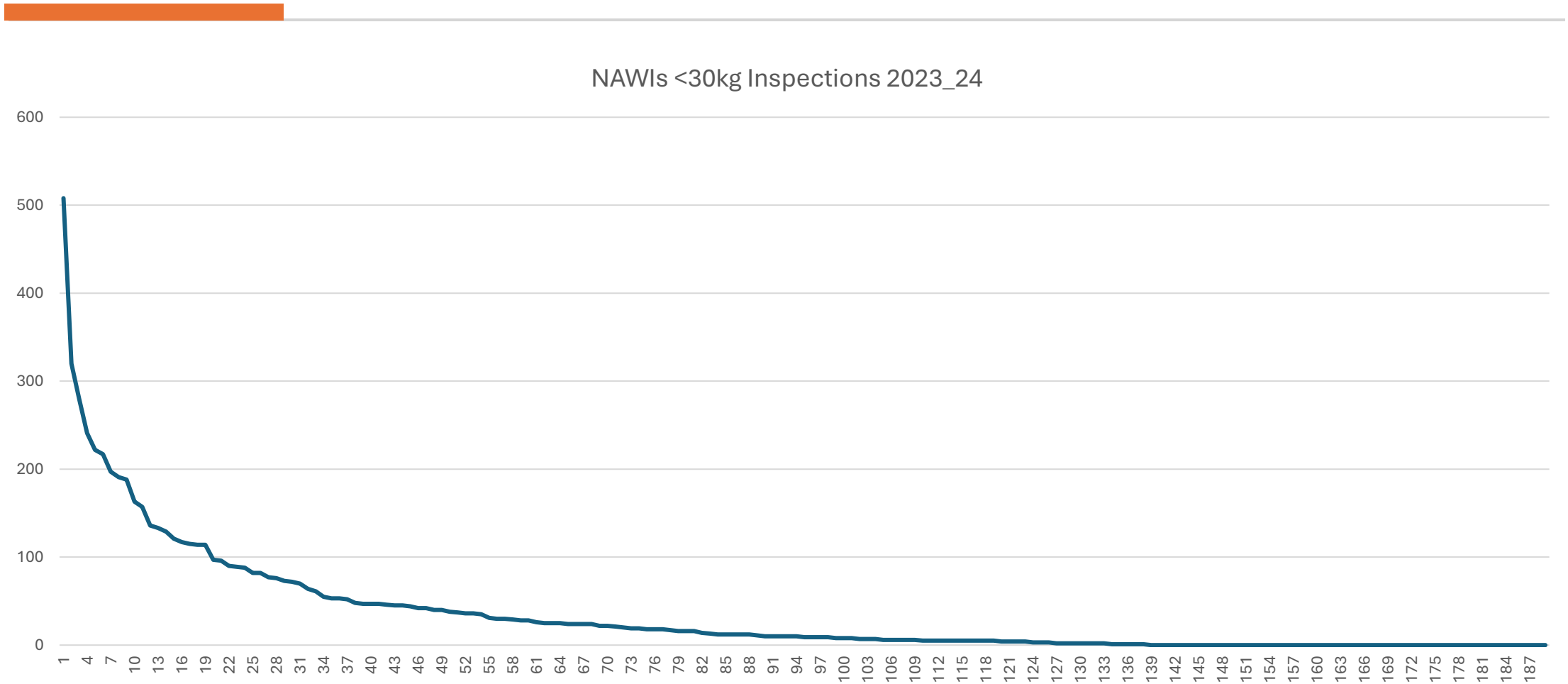
2023_24 LFMI Inspections by Local Authorities



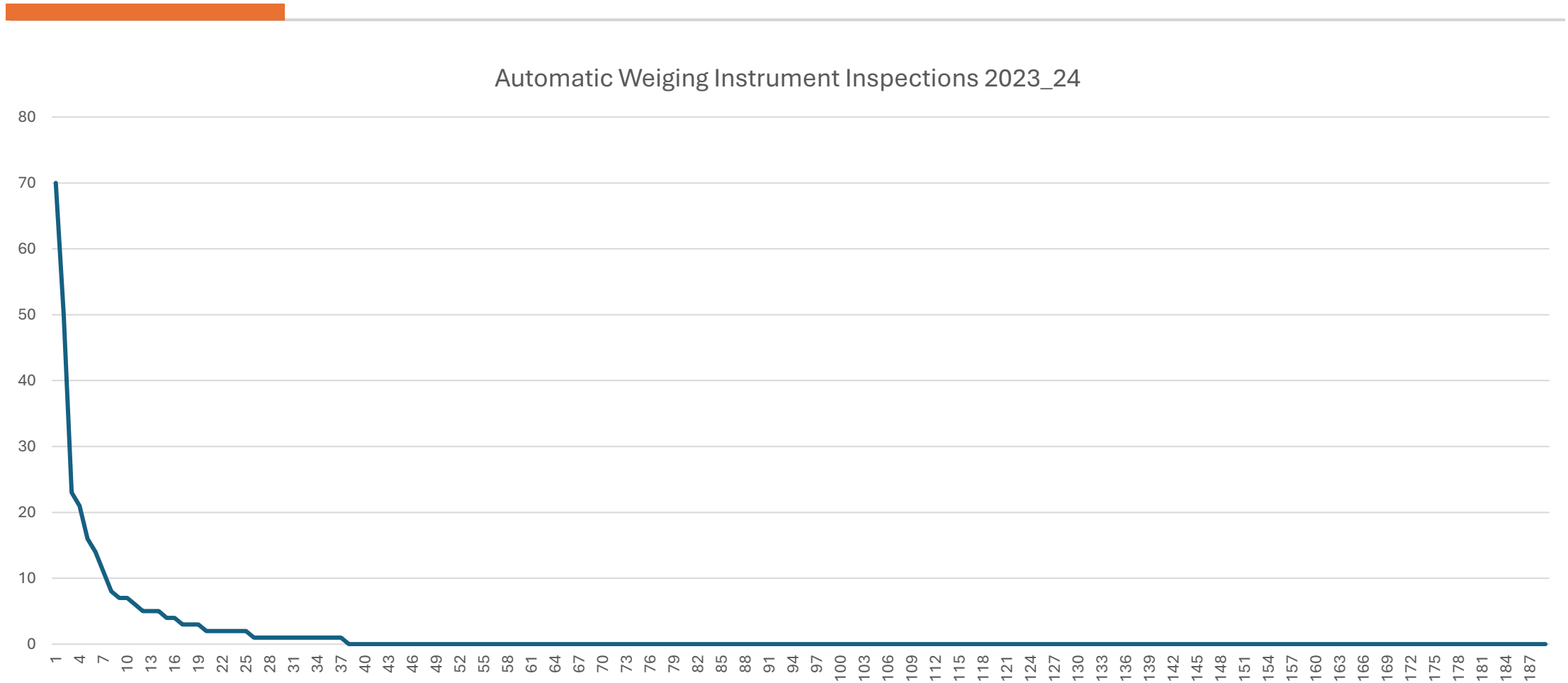
2023_24 LFMI Inspections by Local Authorities



2023_24 LFMI Inspections by Local Authorities



2023_24 LFMI Inspections by Local Authorities



2023_24 LFMI Inspections by Local Authorities

- NAWI's > 5t
 - 1812 inspected
 - 165 outside PLE = 9%
- NAWI's 30kg < 5t
 - 1598 inspected
 - 148 outside PLE = 9%
- NAWIs <30kg
 - 8876 inspected
 - 365 outside PLE = 4%
- Automatics
 - 289 inspected
 - 64 outside PLE = 22%

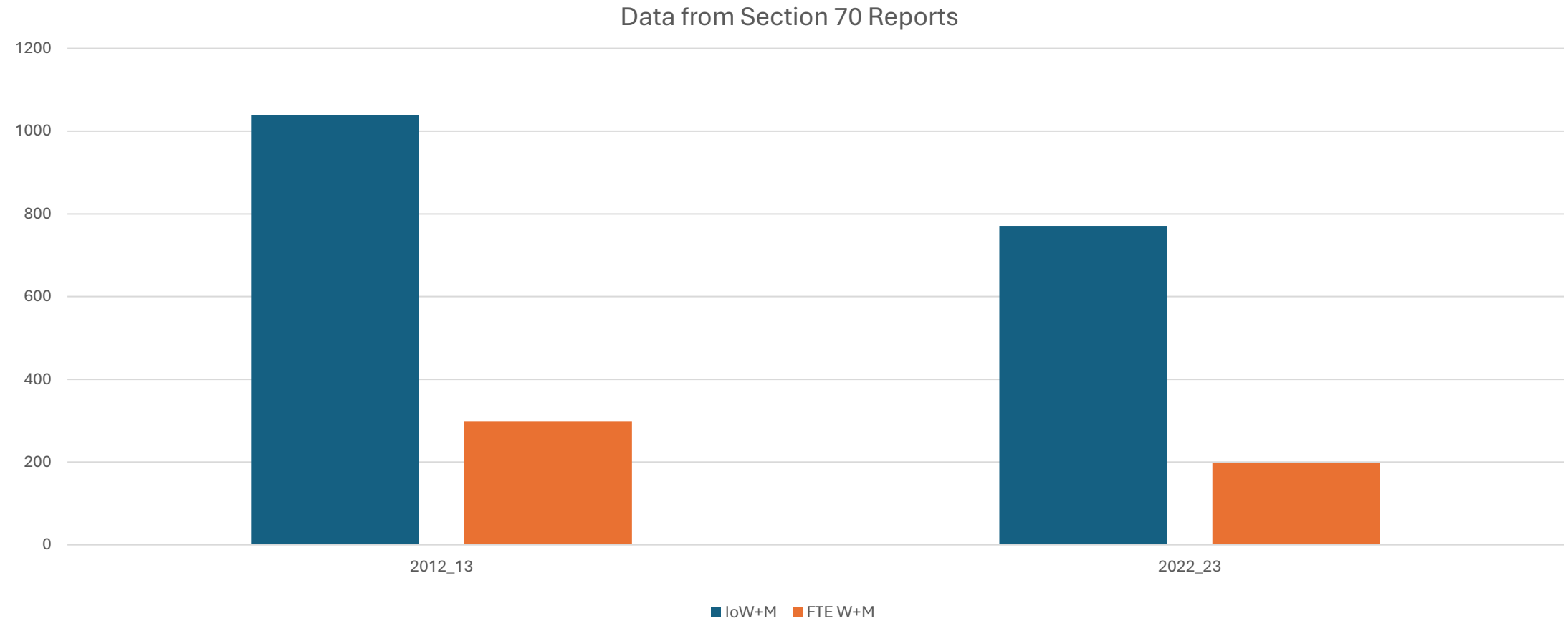
National Measurement Strategy (NMS) 2022

This strategy describes how the UK will capitalise on its **world-leading National Measurement System** in the 2020s. Extraordinary innovation can be realised when the right measurement practices are applied. Measurement can increase investment in R&D by giving confidence to investors, thereby de-risking the innovation journey. Measurement also helps to grow key high-tech sectors by enabling companies to assure quality, **comply with regulations and trade internationally**.

National Measurement Strategy (NMS) 2022

The NMS enables compliance with relevant national legislation, such as the Weights and Measures Act 1985 and the Food Safety Act 1990, through its support of **legal metrology** and Government Chemist activities. The Government Chemist is a statutory role which underpins more than 15 legislative instruments and enables consumer protection. Measurements assured by the NMS also enable the UK to respond to several international treaties, for example in the areas of climate change, food, and nuclear energy.

Number of Inspectors of Weights and Measures



SCOTSS Workforce Survey 2023

“In addition to simple numbers, the age demographic has worsened terribly since just 2019 with **just under 60% of enforcement staff now over the age of 50** (2019: 45%), and over **58% of TSOs over the age of 50**”

Conclusion

1. Structural Review including staffing and training
2. Assessment of current legislation to ensure it is fit for purpose
3. Legal metrology inspection code of practice