

ANGUS COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSUMER PROTECTION COMMITTEE – 19 FEBRUARY 2002

NATIONAL FOOD SAFETY WEEK

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

ABSTRACT

The Council has received information on the Tenth Foodlink National Food Safety Week which is to take place from 10-16 June 2002.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee:

- a) note the contents of the report, and,
- b) express their support for this initiative.

2. BACKGROUND

With the food poisoning incidents appearing to be on an upward trend once again Food Safety Week will provide a national focus for everyone involved in the food chain to work together to reverse this trend.

Last year's week enabled food handlers, environmental health professionals, health promotion staff, GPs, schools etc to communicate simple food safety messages aimed at helping people to understand and carry out basic food safety precautions to avoid suffering from food poisoning.

3. FOCUS FOR 2002

According to the information received from Foodlink National Food Safety Week 2002 will have a broad food safety focus encompassing key food safety messages dealing with:

- Safe storage
- Temperature control (both cooking and chilling)
- Avoiding cross-contamination
- Kitchen cleanliness
- Hand-washing.

Foodlink have also informed the Council that they will be working closely with the Food Standards Agency reflecting the main principles expressed in the Agency's forthcoming Food Safety Campaign (see Report No 10/02 for information on this Campaign).

The staff of the Environmental and Consumer Protection Service will be using the material produced by foodlink such as leaflets, booklets etc to publicise the above themes throughout Angus during the week.

Staff as in previous years will be working with colleagues in other Departments of the Council and external organisation to promote the messages centred around the key themes. In this way it is hoped to gain maximum publicity and effect in Angus during this week in June 2002.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The costs of promoting National Food Safety Week 2002 will be met by the Food Safety Enforcement budget for 2002-03.

5. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no Human Rights implications associated with this report.

6. CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, Director of Finance and the Director of Law and Administration have been consulted on the contents of this report.

S R Heggie
Director of Environmental and Consumer Protection

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing this report.

JB/FMCI
23.1.02