

ANGUS COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENTAL AND LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE

REVIEW OF THE FOOD SERVICE PLAN FOR 2002-2003 AND REPORT ON THIS YEARS AUDIT
BY THE FOOD STANDARDS AGENCY.

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Abstract

The Framework Agreement on Local Authority Food Law Enforcement requires the Council to review the Food Service Plan annually which is then audited by the Food Standards Agency.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee:-

- a) note the contents of this report and
- b) agree to the conclusions indicated within the review and
- c) note that a positive Audit Report regarding the Food Safety service was received with no non-compliances noted.

2. BACKGROUND

Within the context of the Framework Agreement with the Food Standards Agency (FSA) the Food Safety Plan plays a crucial role in the delivery of the Service by the Council. This review is therefore key to ensuring compliance with the objectives, performance targets and actions defined in the plan. To ensure that Food Authorities comply with this requirement of the Framework Agreement, the auditors from the FSA request a copy of the review and plan prior to auditing an Authority.

3. THE REVIEW

As in the previous review it was decided to use the template of the Plan as defined in the Framework Agreement, thus enabling an effective balanced and constructive review to be carried out. The Review therefore, covered the following areas of the Plan.

Demands on the Food Service
Diversity of Premises
Staffing
Revisits
Complaints
Feeding Stuffs
Advice to Business

A copy of the review is attached.

4. REVIEW CONCLUSIONS

The following is a summary of the conclusions contained in the Review:-

- a) Whilst the service failed to attain one hundred percent on the Food Hygiene inspection targets the inspection rates continue to improve year on year. It is hoped that during 2003-2004 the present staff working on a part time basis will return to full time working. Once this occurs the present inspection rate should improve on the figures published in the Review.
- b) The Food Standards targets relating to sampling and inspections were met.
- c) The target defined for feeding stuff sampling was not quite met. However, during the period of the plan the Government provided a little funding for this area of enforcement. Unfortunately the monies provided are insufficient to fully implement this area of Food Safety legislation in Angus.

5. THE FOOD STANDARDS AGENCY (SCOTLAND) 2003 AUDIT

The Audit which was carried out on 7 May 2003 included an assessment of the 2002-2003 Food Safety Plan and the Review carried out of the 2001-2002 Food Safety Plan. The Auditors from the FSA (Scotland) noted no non-conformances with the Framework Agreement and they also confirmed that the file on the non conformances recorded by previous audits was closed. A copy of the Audit Report will be available in the Member's Lounge.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

7. HUMAN RIGHTS

There are no Human Rights Implications associated with this report.

8. CONSULTATION

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

S R HEGGIE
Director of Environmental & 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.