

ANGUS COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENTAL AND LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE - 28 AUGUST, 2003

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSUMER PROTECTION DEPARTMENT - ADDITIONAL POST OF
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Abstract

This report recommends the establishment of a post of Senior Environmental Health Officer.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee:-

- i) note the decision of the Director of Environmental and Consumer Protection, in consultation with the Conveners of Resources and Central Service Committee and Environmental and Leisure Services Committee to commence recruitment of an additional post of Senior Environmental Health Officer Grade AP8; and,
- ii) approve the establishment of the above post to enable recruitment for this post to be completed without delay.

2. INTRODUCTION

In May 2002, Report 619/02 presented a number of establishment changes and a reorganisation of the Environmental Health Service aimed at re focusing and strengthening the management of the Service. This led to the set up of four teams to deliver specialist functions and a decentralised service to customers through three area offices.

The report focused on a need for change brought about by new legislation and the ever-increasing burdens placed on local authorities. The emergence of a number of agencies in particular, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency and The Food Standards Agency continue to place requirements on the local authority for greater management of performance and quality standards.

3. SENIOR OFFICER REVIEW

The last twelve months have allowed the new arrangements to "bed down" and enable a further assessment of the needs of the various teams, their roles and staffing. It has now been established that, with two Senior Environmental Health Officers, the Food and Safety Team is functioning effectively; but the Environmental Protection Team, with one Senior Environmental Health Officer, is significantly under-resourced in terms of supervision and being able to take on many of the emerging issue-specific briefs. It is proposed therefore to establish a post of Senior Environmental Health Officer, grade AP8 within the Environmental Protection Team.

In addition, the Committee is asked to note that the existing Senior Environmental Health Officer in the Environmental Protection Team recently resigned and urgent action was taken to address the issue. The Conveners of Resources and Central Services Committee and Environmental and Leisure Services Committee were contacted and they jointly approved the commencement of a recruitment exercise for the vacant and proposed Senior Environmental Health Officer jobs.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Provision has been made available within the Departments 2003/04 Revenue Budget to fully fund this post at an annual cost of £39,000. The anticipated cost in financial year 2003/2004 is likely to be £23,000.

5. HUMAN RIGHTS

There are no Human Rights issues as a result of this report.

6. CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Law & Administration and Personnel Services Manager, have been consultation 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.

IW/SEL
21 July 2003