

**LIMAVADY BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE BHUIRG LÉIM AN MHADAIDH**

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

15 DECEMBER 2009

Minutes of meeting held in the Council Offices, 7 Connell Street, Limavady at 7.45 pm on the above date.

PRESENT:

Aldermen M Coyle (chair), J Rankin and G Robinson. Councillors A Brolly, P Butcher, M Carten, B Chivers, L Cubitt, B Douglas, G Mullan, C Ó hOisín, J F McElhinney, A Robinson and E Stevenson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Clerk, Operations Manager, Waste Services Manager, Environmental Health Officer and the Chief Executive.

APOLOGIES: - Councillor Donaghy and the Director Environmental Services.

WESTERN GROUP ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT 2008/09:

The Chair welcomed Barny Heywood, Group Chief Environmental Health Officer to the meeting.

Mr Heywood presented his Annual Environmental Health Service report for the year 2008/09. He explained that global economic changes impacted on local health and that society was increasingly recognising that the health of the population could not be considered without reference to wider environmental impacts. For example, bio-fuels may appear to present a solution to diminishing fossil fuel but the monocultures of large scale grain production had adverse effects on vital biodiversity as the increased market value for crops used for bio-fuels impacted on food supplies for developing and developed countries. He said that complexities of an increasingly inter-dependant world faced by diminishing natural resources, damaged eco-systems and variable impacts of climate change would see a need for continuing change and development in the role of environmental health professionals.

Mr Heywood reminded members of the Western Groups key objectives, core functions and of work that the group were involved with during the year, which included 'Scores on the Doors' scheme (risk scoring of premises following inspection); food hygiene courses for the Chinese catering trade; chemicals in food surveys; microbiological surveys; salt in soups; sunbed standards; care home seminar; monitoring of noise at work; safety at sports grounds; event safety; legionella training; fire door survey; cycle helmet survey; emergency planning seminar on flood response with Limavady Borough Council; Foyle Venture exercise and monitoring of the swine influenza.

In the discussion which followed, the labelling of products was highlighted as there were occasions whereby frozen poultry brought in from Europe was being sold as chilled. It was also highlighted that tighter regulation was needed for

sunbed providers and by businesses dealing with the public for cosmetic purposes, such as teeth whitening.

Members extended season's greetings to Mr Heywood and thanked him for his work with Council over the last 8 years.

MINUTES:

The minutes of meeting dated 17 November 2009 were approved on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Councillor Carten

MATTERS ARISING:

Enagh Cemetery: It was agreed that decision on changing rules on items to be put on graves at Enagh Cemetery would be deferred until the next Environmental Services meeting.

DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORTS – DECEMBER 2009:

Building Control Department:

The Chief Executive presented the Building Control Report which detailed applications approved and issued between 1 and 31 November 2009; Entertainment Licences Issued; Licence for Petroleum Spirit Storage Installations; Street Naming; issue of Property Certificates and Facilities Management & Energy Management Report. The report was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Butcher, seconded by Alderman Robinson.

Environmental Health Department:

The Environmental Health Officer presented the Environmental Health Report which detailed information relating to Food Control, Licensing & Regulatory, Street Trading and Pollution Control. The recommendations were accepted on the proposal of Alderman Robinson, seconded by Councillor Cubitt subject to the following:

Injury by Barrier in Car Park: Members were informed of incident whereby a member of the public was injured by a barrier in a car park in Dungiven. It was agreed that the case be referred to Councils' solicitor with a view to legal proceedings being instigated against the proprietors of the premises for the following offences:

1. Failure to ensure work equipment was so constructed or adapted as to be suitable for its purpose as required under Regulation 4 of the Provision and Use Equipment (NI) Regulations 1999.
2. Failure to report the accident as required under Regulation 3 of the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (NI) 1997.
3. Failure to make suitable and sufficient assessment of the risks to health and safety of persons not in their employment as required under Regulations 3 of the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (NI) 2000.

Sale of Tobacco to Young People: Members were informed that during a test purchase exercise, three shops in Limavady had sold cigarettes to a young person who was less than 18 years of age. It was agreed that a recommendation would be brought to Council following investigation.

Noise Act 1996: Members were advised that Council had not adopted the Noise Act 1996 as there were adequate systems in place which addressed the problem of noise nuisance.

Technical Services Department:

The Chief Executive presented the Technical Services Report and enlarged thereon. The items for information were noted and the report and recommendations were adopted on the proposal of Councillor Cubitt, seconded by Councillor Mullan subject to the following:

Christmas Music: Members were advised that music would not be played in Market Street over the Christmas period as Roads Service did not allow speakers to be erected on the street lights.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Car Loan: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Butcher, seconded by Alderman Rankin that car loan number 38 would be approved.

Naming of Town Hall: The Chief Executive agreed to consult with Councillors prior to the January 2010 Monthly meeting to agree a process for selection of name for the Town Hall.

NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 19 January 2010

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS
(The meeting ended at 8.55 pm)**

Signed: _____
Chair of Meeting