

<b>Report on</b>	Environmental Health Service Update
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> January 2023
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Melanie Patterson, Environmental Health Service Manager

<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>  If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	Yes	
	No	X

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	At the meeting of the Development Committee in September 2023, Members resolved that a regular update on the work of Mid Ulster District Council's Environmental Health Service should be provided to committee. This report seeks to provide Members with an update on the work of the Environmental Health Service during November and December 2023.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The Health, Leisure, and Wellbeing Department's 'Environmental Health Service' provides a statutory regulatory service on behalf of Mid Ulster District Council.
2.2	The Environmental Health Service provides a range of Environmental Health and licensing services across the Mid Ulster District Council area, together with an animal welfare function which is currently delivered by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council as part of a Service Level Agreement, administered on our behalf.
2.3	The MUDC Environmental Health team are also contracted to deliver a range of other regulatory services on behalf of third-party statutory agencies, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The assessment of Category 3 and 4 fireworks displays and the inspection of premises storing / selling fireworks on behalf of the Department of Justice</li> <li>• The sampling of private drinking water and completion of associated drinking water risk assessments on behalf of the Drinking Water Inspectorate for Northern Ireland.</li> <li>• House Fitness inspections on behalf of Northern Ireland Housing Executive</li> </ul>
2.4	The Environmental Health Service also works in partnership with a diverse range of stakeholders, both internal and external, in striving to improve the health, safety and wellbeing of those who live, work, and visit the Mid Ulster District Council area.
2.5	The Environmental Health Service is currently delivered by officers who work across three functional areas and who are supported by key Business Support Officers within the team.
2.6	Following the most recent reorganisation of directorates within Council it was necessary to realign the work streams within Environmental Health's functional teams to account for the change in internal structure – the new allocations / work streams now fall within the new functional groupings set out below:

- Food Safety, Consumer Safety and Tobacco Control
- Health and Safety, Planning and Environment
- Neighbourhoods and Licensing

### 3.0 Main Report

3.1 The Environmental Health Service update set out below provides a substantial reflection of the work undertaken by the team in the period between 27<sup>th</sup> October and 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

3.2 The statistics within this report are indicative of the requests for service received by the Department within the specified period and these new demands are in addition to officers' ongoing work on existing caseloads.

#### 3.3 Food Safety, Consumer Safety and Tobacco Control

Nature of Regulatory Work	Number Undertaken
Food hygiene inspections / visits	112
Food standards inspections / visits	48
Food Samples taken for analysis	65
Food Hygiene requests for service / advice	46
Food Standards requests for service / advice	12
Response to Infectious Disease Notifications	13
Consumer Protection requests for service / advice	10
Consumer Protection inspections / visits	0
Consumer Protection Initiatives Undertaken	0
Smoke Free Inspections / Visits	60

The 'Food Safety, Consumer Safety and Tobacco Control' team also undertook risk assessment work under the service level agreement with the Drinking Water Inspectorate.

#### 3.4 Health and Safety, Planning and Environment

Nature of Regulatory Work	Number Undertaken
Health and Safety Inspections / visits	49
Health and safety requests for service	35
RIDDOR reports received	1
Ongoing RIDDOR case files under investigation	10
Fireworks Inspections / Visits	1
Planning Consultations received	48
Planning Consultations completed	54
PPC Inspections	8
Environmental Protection requests for service	70 <i>(total - not split by team)</i>
Air Quality Diffusion Tubes changed over 28 sites	98

3.5 The 'Health and Safety, Planning and Environment' team also initiated a "Medium Combustion Plant" scoping exercise in relation to legislative requirements of the PPC regime within the reporting period.

3.6	Officers are currently in the process of validating the data for the 2022 Air Quality Report. In addition to this, officers are liaising with the various stakeholders to confirm a meeting date regarding the districts air quality action plan – a meeting invite will be extended to Members in due course.																								
3.7	<p><b>Neighbourhoods and Licensing</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="229 450 1238 875"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="229 450 914 488">Nature of Regulatory Work</th> <th data-bbox="914 450 1238 488">Number Undertaken</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="229 488 914 521">Public Health requests for service</td> <td data-bbox="914 488 1238 521">162</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="229 521 914 555">Environmental Protection requests for service</td> <td data-bbox="914 521 1238 555">42</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="229 555 914 589">Private Tenancy requests for service</td> <td data-bbox="914 555 1238 589">18</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="229 589 914 622">Licensing Requests for Service (non-dogs related)</td> <td data-bbox="914 589 1238 622">16</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="229 622 914 656">Licensing inspections (non-dogs related)</td> <td data-bbox="914 622 1238 656">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="229 656 914 689">Complaints related to Dogs (all)</td> <td data-bbox="914 656 1238 689">172</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="229 689 914 723">Stray dog complaints</td> <td data-bbox="914 689 1238 723">72</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="229 723 914 757">Stray dogs impounded</td> <td data-bbox="914 723 1238 757">54</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="229 757 914 790">Investigation into dog attacks on persons</td> <td data-bbox="914 757 1238 790">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="229 790 914 824">Investigation into dog attacks on livestock</td> <td data-bbox="914 790 1238 824">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="229 824 914 857">Investigation into dog attacks on other dogs</td> <td data-bbox="914 824 1238 857">6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Nature of Regulatory Work	Number Undertaken	Public Health requests for service	162	Environmental Protection requests for service	42	Private Tenancy requests for service	18	Licensing Requests for Service (non-dogs related)	16	Licensing inspections (non-dogs related)	1	Complaints related to Dogs (all)	172	Stray dog complaints	72	Stray dogs impounded	54	Investigation into dog attacks on persons	10	Investigation into dog attacks on livestock	1	Investigation into dog attacks on other dogs	6
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3.8	<p><b>Freedom of Information Requests</b></p> <p>The Environmental Health Service provided relevant information in relation to 7 freedom of information requests.</p> <p>A further update on Councils Environmental Health Service will be brought to the Development Committee in March 2024.</p>																								
4.0	<b>Other Considerations</b>																								
4.1	<p><b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b></p> <p>Financial: None anticipated at this juncture.</p> <p>Human: None anticipated at this juncture.</p> <p>Risk Management: None anticipated at this juncture</p>																								
4.2	<p><b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b></p> <p>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications: None anticipated at this juncture.</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications: None anticipated at this juncture.</p>																								
5.0	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>																								
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6.0	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>																								
	N/A																								