

Report on	Environmental Health Service Update
Date of Meeting	16 th November 2023
Reporting Officer	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director Health, Leisure & Wellbeing
Contact Officer	Melanie Patterson, Environmental Health Service Manager

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
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 is the first in a series of reports to provide Members with an update on the work of the Environmental Health Service in October 2023.
2.0	Background
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"> • The assessment of Category 3 and 4 fireworks displays and the inspection of premises storing / selling fireworks on behalf of the Department of Justice • The sampling of private drinking water and completion of associated drinking water risk assessments on behalf of the Drinking Water Inspectorate for Northern Ireland. • House Fitness inspections on behalf of Northern Ireland Housing Executive
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	<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 1st October and 26th October 2023. 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.

Food Safety, Consumer Safety and Tobacco Control

Nature of Regulatory Work	Number Undertaken
Food hygiene inspections / visits	67
Food standards inspections / visits	42
Food Samples taken for analysis	25
Food Hygiene requests for service / advice	25
Food Standards requests for service / advice	8
Response to Infectious Disease Notifications	21
Consumer Protection requests for service / advice	4
Consumer Protection inspections / visits	2
Consumer Protection Initiatives Undertaken - Inflatable Safety advice to 22 premises	1
Smoke Free Inspections / Visits	35

Health and Safety, Planning and Environment

Nature of Regulatory Work	Number Undertaken
Health and Safety Inspections / visits	27
Health and safety requests for service	23
RIDDOR reports received	0

Fireworks Inspections / Visits	4
Planning Consultations received	31
Planning Consultations completed	22
PPC Inspections	3
Environmental Protection requests for service	22
Air Quality Diffusion Tubes changed over 28 sites	43

3.2 Whilst no accidents or dangerous occurrences were notified within the reporting period, the health and safety team currently have 18 accident case files under investigation.

Neighbourhoods and Licensing

Nature of Regulatory Work	Number Undertaken
Public Health requests for service	98
Environmental Protection requests for service	35
Private Tenancy requests for service	13
Licensing Requests for Service (non-dogs related)	20
Licensing inspections (non-dogs related)	3
Complaints related to Dogs	89
Stray dogs lifted	39
Investigation into dog attacks on persons	9
Investigation into dog attacks on livestock	2
Investigation into dog attacks on other dogs	3

3.3 On 16th October 2023 Members had the opportunity to attend an Environmental Health led workshop focussing on two areas of topical work, namely

- The Investigation of Odour Complaints under the Clean Neighbourhoods Legislation; and
- The investigative process under the 1983 Dogs Order in the event of a Dog Attack

A copy of the information presented during the workshop is enclosed within the appendix.

A further update on Councils Environmental Health Service will be brought to the Development Committee in January 2024.

4.0 Other Considerations

4.1 Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications

Financial: None anticipated at this juncture.

Human: None anticipated at this juncture.

	Risk Management: None anticipated at this juncture
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None anticipated at this juncture.
	Rural Needs Implications: None anticipated at this juncture.
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	To note the contents of this report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix A – Presentation on the Investigation of Odour Complaints under the Clean Neighbourhoods Legislation. Appendix B – Presentation on Dog Control under the 1983 Dogs Order.