

Report on	Regional Public Analyst Contract for Environmental Health
Date of Meeting	15 th May 2025
Reporting Officer	Kieran Gordon, Assistant Director, Health, Leisure and Wellbeing
Contact Officer	Melanie Patterson, Environmental Health Service Manager Monica McDonnell, Principal Environmental Health Officer

Is this report restricted for confidential business? If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To inform Members that the contract to provide Public Analyst services to the 11 District Councils has been awarded to Eurofins Food Testing Ireland Ltd.
2.0	Background
2.1	Article 27(1) of <i>The Food Safety (Northern Ireland) Order 1991</i> requires that councils appoint one or more persons (Public Analyst(s)) to act as Analyst(s) within the district of the Council.
2.2	Furthermore, the Framework Agreement* (Chapter 2, para 12.8), states that District Councils must ensure a Food Analyst is appointed to carry out examinations and analyses of food samples. In making these appointments, all relevant legal requirements and Codes of Practice shall be satisfied. * <i>The Framework Agreement on Official Feed and Food Controls by Local Authorities (Amendment 5 April 2010)</i>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The qualifications required by Analysts are set out in the <i>Food Safety (Sampling and Qualifications) Regulations (NI) 2013</i> .
3.2	A regional tender exercise involving all 11 Councils was administered by Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council's Procurement Services, and following evaluation, was awarded to <i>Eurofins Food Testing Ireland Ltd</i> for public analyst services.
3.3	The contract commenced on 1 st April 2025 for a contract period of 2 years up to 31 st March 2027, with an option to renew for a further 2 years.
3.4	Council's Environmental Health Service is satisfied that the following persons, who are employed by Eurofins Food Testing Ireland Ltd, fulfil the requirements of the Regulations for appointment as Public Analysts on behalf of the Council.
3.5	<u>Public Analysts - April 2025</u> Current List of Public Analysts with Qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duncan Kenelm Arthur BSc MChemA CChem MRSC • Nigel Kenneth Payne MSc MChemA CChem MRSC

3.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lilian Emma Jane Downie MChem MChemA CChem MRSC • Michelle Evans BSc MChemA CChem MRSC • Donna Hanks BSc MChemA MRSC • Mary Butts MSc MChemA MRSC <p>A stipulation of the regional tender award was that each Council has to enter into individual contracts with Eurofins.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</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>Screening & Impact Assessments</p> <p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: None anticipated at this juncture</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications: None anticipated at this juncture.</p>
5.0	<p>Recommendation(s)</p> <p>Members note the contents of this report and give approval for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid Ulster District Council to enter into an individual contract with <i>Eurofins Food Testing Ireland Ltd</i> for the provision of Public Analyst services to Council. • Mid Ulster District Council appoint the above named individuals (in section 3.5 of this report) as Public Analysts to the Council, under Article 27(1) of <i>the Food Safety (Northern Ireland) Order 1991</i>, with effect from the 1st April 2025.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	N/A