



**ALL WALES POLLUTION TECHNICAL PANEL**

Llanerch Inn, Llandrindod Wells

Minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2008 at 10 am

**ACTION**

Attendees

Helen Williams, Bridgend	HW
Maria Godfrey, Caerphilly	MG
Sian Hobson, Caerphilly	SH
Sian James, Cardiff	SJA
Alun Rees, Carmarthenshire	AR
Dewi Roberts, Ceredigion	DR
Nick Jones, Conwy	NJ
Robert Johnston, Flintshire	RJ
Zoe Pieris, Merthyr Tydfil	ZP
Paul White, Monmouthshire	PW
Jonathan Keen, Newport	JK
Martin Hooper, Neath Port Talbot	MH
Owain Butterworth, Neath Port Talbot	OB
Tony John, Neath Port Talbot	TJ
Sarah Johns, PCC (Secretary)	SJ
Neil Pilliner, RCT	NP
Andrew Young, RCT	AY
Sam Naylor, Swansea	SN
Huw Morgan, Swansea (Chair)	HM
Peter Oates, Torfaen	PO
Kristian James, Vale of Glamorgan	KJ
Sarah Evans, Wrexham	SE
Huw Brunt, WAG	HB

**1.**

**INTRODUCTION**

HM (Chair) welcomed everyone to this meeting.

Presentation given by Huw Brunt, Specialist Public Health, WAG on "Assessing Chemical Sampling, Measuring, Monitoring and Analysis Capabilities in Wales."

Discussion followed on CHaPD (HPA) involvement who have taken lead role following HB work; Out of Hours Services; and

other agencies involvement eg EA and Fire and Rescue Service. HM suggested having meeting with CHaPD to move this forward.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies have been received by the Secretary from:

Andrew Fuller, Flintshire.  
Lisa Elliott, Blaenau Gwent  
Richard Marshall, UWIC  
Bryn Roberts, Denbighshire  
Andrew Lord, Denbighshire

3. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

HM reinforced the importance of LA areas of expertise information. Secretary to circulate spreadsheet to all LA's and to be notified of any staff changes.

**Secretary**

No information received from Flintshire, Denbighshire and Gwynedd. Reminder to be sent by Secretary to 3 LAs to submit information.

**Flintshire,  
Denbighshire  
and Gwynedd**

Odour training – HM in discussion with LACORS and DEFRA re Odour Management Guide. Full draft document to be going out for consultation in November. DEFRA may look to organise training days after this.

RJ asked about status of LACORS Cllrs handbook for EP. HM advised draft produced and due to be released before Christmas.

4. **REPORTS FOR SUB-GROUPS**

**EPR Sub-Group**

KJ reported that the last meeting of the Group was on 3<sup>rd</sup> October in Rhyader with contributions from Jacqui Murray, WAG and from LACORS.

Issues covered by the Group include:

- Improving statistical returns and Better Regulations review.
- Ongoing work by Specialist sub-groups to look at specific permits, eg crematoria.
- Representatives from the Group on the Industrial Liaison Groups.
- Atkins review findings to be linked to LACORS
- REACH Regulations which may impact on all service areas. EA likely to take lead on this. HSC currently running publicity

campaign.

Specialist EPR courses are currently being run in Wales. "Monitoring for EP/PCC" was run on 13<sup>th</sup> October and "Working with the Solvent Notes" is on 21<sup>st</sup> October in Rhyader.

**AII**

Lisa Elliott was congratulated as the first EHP in Wales to achieve the CIEH accredited qualification course in IPCC.

Next meeting planned before Christmas. KJ advised if anyone wished they could use the virtual email group to forward information or queries.

**AII**

Request by HM to contact LACORS on any EP policy issue so that this can be feed into any policy decisions.

Formal agreement between EA & LACORS in process of being signed off.

#### Bathing Water Sub-Group

Next meeting planned before Christmas. No significant changes since last meeting DEFRA having annual meeting on BWD in December in Llandudno.

David Kay, Aberystwyth University and HM drafted paper on single sample limit value based on WHO guidance on recreational water use. Paper with EA and Defra.

#### Contaminated Land Group

Discussion on work of regional and national CL groups. Some regional groups working well and organising own training sessions. SE/RJ agreed to provide summary on work of national group. Representatives from 3 regions to report back at next Panel Meeting.

**SE/RJ**

### **5. TRAINING**

- (i) Environmental Protection UK organised course on Microgeneration in July 2008 which was really good event but poorly attended.

PO to continue to push Environmental Protection UK work and to notify Panel of other events. RJ suggested possibility of speaker for CIEH Weekend Study Course 2009 in Llandudno on Microgeneration. PO to discuss with RJ.

**PO/RJ**

- (2) CIEH 6-pack planned for March 2009 on EPR so please notify

	Secretary of any potential speaker. KJ suggested topics for training on EP and Planning. Notify Secretary of possible speakers.	All
	MG dealing with AQ Impact Assessments and requests training on this issue. Secretary suggested raising at next WAQF meeting as topic for next annual seminar. AEA Technology has contacted some LAs on training needs.	All
	NP suggested training on Public Nuisance and Licensing. Secretary to speak with Licensing Technical Panel to look at organising joint training.	Secretary
	HW raised recent LACORS consultation on changes proposed to remove need for Premises Licence if music internal only; less than 200 people present and between 8 am and 11 pm. Representatives sent by some LAs to LACORS. HM to chase up with LACORS.	HM
6.	<b><u>LACORS IPPC REVIEW</u></b>	
	HM reported LACORS pressing for more IPPC work but still in discussions.	HM
7.	<b><u>BATHING WATER DIRECTIVE</u></b>	
	BWD progressing slowly but will be discussed at meeting planned for Dec (see earlier).	
8.	<b><u>WAG CHEMICALS AND ENVIRONMENT GROUP</u></b>	
	Item covered in presentation by HB earlier.	
9.	<b><u>CONSULTATION ON SHORT TERM AQ ACTION PLAN ZONES</u></b>	
	MH reported that WAG and EA under threat of judicial review by members of the public. WAG responsible for ensuring AQ is maintained.	
	Where AQ objective is likely to be exceeded short term action plans and the creation of zones are required.	
	Ultimate responsibility for this with WAG. MH details that the positive to this was it focused attention on this issue and WAG provided funding for data analysis. Response to be sent to WAG from Panel.	HM/Secretary

<p><b>10.</b></p>	<p><b><u>ENVIRONMENTAL NOISE DIRECTIVE</u></b></p> <p>Rob Johnston, Peter Oates and Jonathan Keen all attend END Core Steering Group Meetings. Next meeting is planned for 22<sup>nd</sup> October and comments to be sent to any of the 3 representatives.</p> <p>PO requested any information on reducing road noise to be sent to him.</p> <p>From 2012 agglomeration size reduced to 100,000 from 250,000 currently.</p> <p>RJ outlined potential health effects from noise sources. WAG looking at Health Impact Assessments for this in the future. RJ/PO/JK to act as representatives on END Core Steering Group for Panel and to feedback accordingly.</p> <p>Bilingual leaflet due to be published on this by Environmental Protection UK.</p>	<p><b>All</b></p> <p><b>RJ/PO/JK</b></p> <p><b>All</b></p>
<p><b>11.</b></p>	<p><b><u>CIEH NOISE RETURNS</u></b></p> <p>HW raised concerns re CIEH Noise Returns as difficulties in completing spreadsheet.</p> <p>Some LA's sent limited noise statistics back to CIEH.</p> <p>Secretary to contact CIEH re issues on consistency in completing returns and difficulties being experienced.</p>	<p><b>Secretary</b></p>
<p><b>12.</b></p>	<p><b><u>WATER HEALTH PARTNERSHIP FOR WALES</u></b></p> <p>Water Emergency Framework launched in May 2008 and covers all incidents regarding drinking water in Wales and Herefordshire. All LA's should be using this document now.</p> <p>Drinking Water Quality Awareness Day planned for January 2009 in South Wales and February 2009 in North Wales. Proposed schedule distributed at meeting. Any comments to be forwarded to Secretary.</p>	<p><b>All</b></p> <p><b>All</b></p>
<p><b>13.</b></p>	<p><b><u>LEAFLETS</u></b></p> <p>HM discussed value of sharing work to produce leaflets e.g Dark Smoke and Bonfire leaflets. Several LA's produce individual leaflets on noise, dark smoke etc.</p> <p>Bristol County Council and Pental Council have produced</p>	

	good leaflets on noise and licensed premises.	
	PO requested if any leaflets translated into Welsh then please circulate.	<b>AII</b>
	Secretary to collate list of recent leaflets. Request for all LA's to be sent copies of leaflets to Secretary.	<b>AII</b>
<b>14.</b>	<b><u>CONSULTATION ON PRIVATE WATER REGULATIONS</u></b>	
	Consultation currently in relation to England only. No action by WAG to date. HM to send representation to LACORS. Agreed to notify WAG that no returns will be done until new PWS Regulations introduced.	<b>HM/Secretary</b>
<b>15.</b>	<b><u>FOOD, WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL MICROBIOLOGY SERVICE REVIEW</u></b>	
	Group currently discussing this and each LA will probably be affected from April 2009 which could introduce additional costs from lab analysis.	<b>ALL</b>
<b>16.</b>	<b><u>BEST PRACTICE STANDARDS</u></b>	
	Discussion undertaken on the BPS for each of the Pollution Control areas. Comments received by Secretary to be incorporated into BPS and revised version to be fed back to WhoEH Group by end of October.	
	Secretary to circulate revised version to Panel for comments by end of October.	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>17.</b>	<b><u>AOB</u></b>	
(i)	<b><u>Dispersion Modelling</u></b>	
	MH raised query re "experts" used on planning applications for AQ dispersion modelling submitted by consultants. Some LA's have a retainer via Planning Departments where AQ reports can be assessed and comments made by external consultants. Other LA's use consultants directly for these purposes.	
	HM suggested possibility of CHaPD being contacted to assess larger planning applications. HM to raise with CHaPD.	<b>HM</b>
	Alternatively HM suggested going back to Planning Department and asking for money to assess reports.	<b>AII</b>

(ii)	<p><u>Noise Nuisance Appeal</u></p> <p>AR advised noise nuisance notice quashed at appeal due to background noise level; “only 2 complainants”; discretion by LA in serving Notice; and BPM defence (see previous email). Panel agreed no significant changes to be introduced to the way LA’s operate in dealing with noise nuisance complaints.</p>	<b>All</b>
iii)	<p><u>Severn Tidal Power Stakeholder Event</u></p> <p>No comments from this event available</p>	
iv)	<p><u>Transfer of Private Sewers and Drains</u></p> <p>Still planned for 2010.</p>	
v)	<p><u>Revised Waste Exemption Environmental Permitting</u></p> <p>Consultation open until 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2008. Comments to LACORS.</p>	<b>All</b>
vi)	<p><u>LABRO</u></p> <p>HM advised primary Authority principle is proposed for S80 nuisance action and suggests this element is removed. HM to progress this.</p> <p><b>The meeting closed at approximately 3.15 pm.</b></p> <p><b>The date of the next meeting is March 2009.</b></p>	<b>HM</b>