

THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
Council Meeting – 5th September 2005
Report from the Chief Executive

OVERVIEW FROM WALES

1.0 SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 This report summarises the activities and progress in ongoing projects in Wales being led by Julie Barratt since the last meeting of Council.
- 1.2 Council are recommended to note the report.

2.0 DETAILS

- 2.1 On 14th July CIEH in partnership with the Wales Heads of Environmental Health Group Food Safety Technical Panel ran a Conference entitled 'Food Issues and Imperatives'. The conference addressed emerging issues in the field of food and food technology. It was attended by 60 delegates and feedback suggests was well received.
- 2.2 On 15th July the Director had an introductory meeting with the Acting Chief Medical Officer, Dr. David Salter. Dr. Salter is acting as Chief Medical Officer since the resignation of Dr. Ruth Hall and pending the appointment of her permanent replacement. The purpose of the meeting was to explain to Dr Salter the role of CIEH in Wales and to offer our assistance with taking forward any public health initiatives. The meeting, which was also attended by the Chief Environmental Health Advisor to the Welsh Assembly Government, was very positive, the Acting CMO indicating he would contact the Director about any issues upon which the assistance of CIEH would be of assistance.
- 2.3 The Welsh Assembly Government Lifestyles Division has asked CIEH to undertake some work on its behalf to promote the work that environmental health departments in Wales are doing in taking forward the Health Challenge Wales programme. Funding has been provided for the collation production of a Tool Kit highlighting a number of interventions carried out by environmental health departments across the key themes of Health Challenge Wales and for a conference to be held on 3rd November showcasing the interventions as best practice. The Minister for Health and Social Services has already agreed to speak at the conference. The tool kit and the conference will be jointly badged by CIEH and the Welsh Assembly Government. Being asked to do this work is a considerable coup for CIEH, since in the normal course of events an invitation to tender would be published with all interested parties invited to apply for the funding. Work on the tool kit is progressing.
- 2.4 On 5th August the Director met with representatives from the Welsh Development Agency Agri-Food Directorate to discuss matters of concern relating to food manufacture in Wales. Issues discussed were the use of milk from TB reactor cattle in food production and the position in respect of rustling of sheep and their subsequent illegal slaughter.
- 2.5 The Beat the Burn Skin Cancer campaign in Wales has come to a head. The Director has judged poster competitions and awarded prizes in Ceredigion, the Vale of Glamorgan, Neath Port Talbot and Torfaen Councils, as well as working with Carmarthenshire, the Isle of Anglesey and Wrexham Council on taking forward initiatives based around the skin cancer message. There has been significant media coverage of the events which has contributed to raising the profile of CIEH in the Principality.
- 2.6 The Director has attended meetings of the Public Protection Reference group, working on the Performance Frame Work for Wales, the WLGA Recruitment and Retention Working Party, the group reviewing the legislation surrounding meat crime and has carried out a one day training course on legal skills as part of the Northern Ireland Training Programme.

3.0 IMPLICATIONS

Financial: Within existing resources
Personnel: Within existing resources
Legal: None
Environmental: None
Equal Opportunities: None
Public Relations: None
Public Health: None

Background Papers: None
Contact Officer: Director CIEH Wales.