



<b>Subject:</b>	Appointment of Public Analyst
<b>Date:</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Nigel Grimshaw, Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Siobhan Toland, Assistant Director City and Neighbourhood Services Damian Connolly, Environmental Health Manager (Food Safety and Port Health)

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</b>	
<b>After Committee Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>After Council Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Some time in the future</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Never</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Call-in</b>	
<b>Is the decision eligible for Call-in?</b>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	Article 27 (1) of the Food Safety (NI) Order 1991 requires the Council to appoint suitably qualified persons as Public Analysts within the district of the Council, for the purpose of examining and analysing food samples to determine compliance with food safety, compositional and labelling requirements.
1.2	Such individuals must meet the qualifications prescribed within the Food Safety (Sampling and Qualifications) Regulations (NI) 2013.

1.3	The purpose of this report is to request Members to approve the appointment of Lilian Emma Jane Downie MChem, MChemA, CChem, MRSC as a Public Analyst within the District.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to approve the appointment of the following suitably qualified person as Public Analyst to the Council under Article 27(1) of the Food Safety Order (Northern Ireland) Order 1991:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lilian Emma Jane Downie MChem, MChemA, CChem, MRSC</li> </ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<p>The Council has a duty to monitor and ensure compliance with Food Law within its jurisdiction. Sampling and analysis is an essential element of food law regulation. Council Food Safety Officers regularly sample foods and send them for laboratory analysis to verify if they are safe and meet all compositional and labelling requirements. The Council currently analyses approximately 400 samples each year. In the majority of cases officers use the results of this analysis to work with businesses to secure compliance. In a small number of more serious cases formal action may be taken based on the results in line with the Council's Enforcement and Regulation Policy.</p>
3.2	<p>Article 27 (1) of the Food Safety (NI) Order 1991 requires the Council to appoint suitably qualified persons as Public Analysts within the district to carry out this analytical work and such individuals must meet the qualifications prescribed within the Food Safety (Sampling and Qualifications) Regulations (NI) 2013.</p>
3.3	<p>On 1<sup>st</sup> June 2016 following a regional procurement exercise, Council awarded a contract to Public Analyst Scientific Services Limited to provide this service. This contract runs to the end of June 2018 with an option to extend up to two twelve month periods at the Council's discretion.</p>
3.4	<p>Subsequently on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2016, the People and Communities Committee approved the appointment of a number of suitably qualified persons employed by the contractor as Public Analysts in line with the requirements of Article 27(1) of the Food Safety Order (Northern Ireland) Order 1991.)</p>
3.5	<p>Public Analyst Scientific Services Limited have now contacted the Council requesting that in addition, Lilian Emma Jane Downie, MChem, MChemA, CChem, MRSC, be appointed as a suitably qualified person.</p>

3.6	<u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u> No additional financial resources are envisaged as the cost of public analyst services is allowed for within existing budgets.
3.7	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u> None
4.0	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
	None