



Subject:	Appointment of Public Analyst – Additional Nomination
Date:	4 February 2020
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director of City & Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Damian Connolly, City Protection Manager

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
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 Donna Hanks BSc, MChemA, MRSC as a Public Analyst within the District.

2.0	Recommendations
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"> • Donna Hanks BSc, MChemA, MRSC
3.0	Main Report
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 1st June 2016 following a regional procurement exercise, Council awarded a contract to Public Analyst Scientific Services Limited to provide this service. This contract ran until the end of June 2018 and has been extended for two twelve month periods at the Council's discretion.</p>
3.4	<p>On 7th 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 Donna Hanks BSc, MChemA, MRSC be appointed as a suitably qualified person.</p>
3.6	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> No additional financial resources are envisaged as the cost of public analyst services is</p>

	allowed for, within existing budgets.
3.7	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment</u> None
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None