

The Highland Council

Transport, Environmental and Community Services Committee
7 November 2013

Agenda Item	8
Report No	TEC 80/13

Appointment of Public Analyst, Food Examiner and Agriculture Analyst

Report by Director of Transport Environmental & Community Services

Summary

This report invites Members to appoint and authorise Mr Robert Beattie as Public Analyst, Food Examiner, and Agriculture Analyst for the Highland Council, and to delegate the powers to appoint under section 27 of the Food Safety Act 1990 to the Environmental Health Manager and the powers to appoint under section 67 of the Agriculture Act 1970 to the Trading Standards Manager.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Highland Council is the statutory Food Authority under the Food Safety Act 1990 and statutory Enforcement Authority under the Agriculture Act 1970. These Acts regulate the safety and composition of food, fertilisers and animal feeding stuffs. The Council has powers under the Acts to take or purchase samples of food, fertilisers or feeding stuffs for chemical or microbiological examination.
- 1.2 Under section 27 of the Food Safety Act 1990, the Highland Council is required to appoint one or more persons to act as Public Analyst and Food Examiner. Under section 67 of the Agriculture Act 1970, the Council is required to appoint a person to act as Agricultural Analyst and may appoint one or more Deputy Agricultural Analysts. These appointed persons have to have the requisite qualifications and be authorised by the Council in writing.
- 1.3 Analytical Services are provided to Highland Council by Edinburgh Scientific Services. Environmental Health has been advised that due to personnel changes Mr Robert Beattie is now the Public Analyst, Food Examiner and Agricultural Analyst and requires the Highland Council's authorisation.

2. Proposal

- 2.1 Mr Beattie meets the required qualifications for Public Analyst, Food Examiner and Agricultural analyst under the Fertilisers (Sampling and Analysis) Regulations 1991 and the Food Safety (Sampling and Qualifications) (Scotland) Regulations 2013. He should be appointed as the Public Analyst, Food Examiner and Agricultural Analyst for the Highland Council.
- 2.2 To avoid future Committee time, it is also recommend that the powers to

appoint under section 27 of the Food Safety Act 1990 be delegated to the Environmental Health Manager and the powers to appoint under section 67 of the Agriculture Act 1970 be delegated to the Trading Standards Manager.

3. Implications

- 3.1 There are no resource implications arising directly from this report.
- 3.2 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.
- 3.3 There are no equality implications arising directly from this report.
- 3.4 There are no climate change / carbon clever implications arising directly from this report.
- 3.5 There are no risk implications arising directly from this report.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 Members are invited to appoint and authorise Mr Robert Beattie as Public Analyst, Food Examiner and Agriculture Analyst for the Highland Council.
- 4.2 Members are invited to delegate the powers to appoint under section 27 of the Food Safety Act 1990 to the Environmental Health Manager and the powers to appoint under section 67 of the Agriculture Act 1970 to the Trading Standards Manager.

Designation: Director of Transport, Environmental and Community Services

Date: 25 October 2013

Author: Alan Yates, Environmental Health Manager