






















<p>Key</p> <p>Northern Ireland </p> <p>Scotland </p> <p>Wales </p> <p><b>Environmental Health Services in the United Kingdom Devolved Regions Tripartite Meeting 2/3 December 2008 Bushmills Inn, Bushmills, County Antrim</b></p> <p><b>Present:</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td> Gary McFarlane</td> <td> Andrew Blake</td> <td> Chris Brereton</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sam Knox</td> <td>Colin Wallace</td> <td>Graham Perry</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nigel McMahon</td> <td>George Morris</td> <td>Huw Williams</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Sandy Taylor</td> <td>Julie Barratt</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Stephanie Powell</td> </tr> </table>	 Gary McFarlane	 Andrew Blake	 Chris Brereton	Sam Knox	Colin Wallace	Graham Perry	Nigel McMahon	George Morris	Huw Williams		Sandy Taylor	Julie Barratt			Stephanie Powell	<p><a href="#">Web Link</a></p>
 Gary McFarlane	 Andrew Blake	 Chris Brereton														
Sam Knox	Colin Wallace	Graham Perry														
Nigel McMahon	George Morris	Huw Williams														
	Sandy Taylor	Julie Barratt														
		Stephanie Powell														
<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <p>Gary McFarlane as host welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave apologies for for Barny Heywood.</p> <p>Meeting reviewed notes from last meeting.</p> <p>Gary McFarlane was elected to facilitate the meeting agenda was read and accepted by all.</p>																
<p><b>Fluoridation of drinking water</b></p> <p><b>Update from each service</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td>Not currently on health agenda (politically sensitive).</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Not currently on health agenda but can be an issue from time to time.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Writing to Minister to renew debate of fluoridation.</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Issues:</b></p> <p>Mass medication Uncertainty of side effects Mottling of teeth Civil rights argument</p> <p><b>General comment:</b></p> <p>There was consensus that this has been on the agenda before and there is no real drive to have fluoridation in drinking water.</p> <p><b>Action:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Nigel McMahon to update meeting on department's line</li> <li>2 George Morris to update meeting on department's line</li> <li>3 Andrew Blake forwarded information regarding school based scheme in his own area: fluoride being orally administered.</li> <li>5 Julie Barratt to update at a later date Minister's reply to her letter.</li> <li>6 Evidence based material to be collated by the group and shared.</li> </ol>		Not currently on health agenda (politically sensitive).		Not currently on health agenda but can be an issue from time to time.		Writing to Minister to renew debate of fluoridation.	<p><a href="http://www.child-smile.org">http://www.child-smile.org</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.dentalhealth.org.uk/faqs/leafletdetail.php?LeafletID=17">http://www.dentalhealth.org.uk/faqs/leafletdetail.php?LeafletID=17</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.bfsweb.org/One%20in%20a%20million/10%20ethics.pdf">http://www.bfsweb.org/One%20in%20a%20million/10%20ethics.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.cyber-nook.com/water/tbl_af1.htm">http://www.cyber-nook.com/water/tbl_af1.htm</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.cieh.org/ehn/ehn3.aspx?id=8680">http://www.cieh.org/ehn/ehn3.aspx?id=8680</a></p>									
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Key  
Northern Ireland  
Scotland  
Wales



Web Link

**Tobacco control - future approaches and policy issues.**


**Update on enforcement**

 Work vehicles and taxis  
Vehicles where children are transported  
Hospital grounds  
Sports stadiums  
Vending machines

Other Age restriction raised from 16 to 18  
3 year operation on underage sales  
Enforcing no smoking on school grounds

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2007/06/05104113>


**Update on enforcement**

 Shelters with prosecution imminent  
Constructions adjacent to bars/restaurants to be investigated  
Health Service grounds  
Under age sales

Other CIEH NI to publish report on in door air quality before and after ban  
Under ages sales being targeted with test purchases  
5 year tobacco plan expires - web link to summary response

<http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/tobaccoactionplanresponses.pdf>

**Update on enforcement**








 Work vehicles  
Beer gardens (issue of children)  
Regulation on shelters  
Test purchasing project to start with each LA doing 40 test purchase  
10 test purchases on vending machines.






Other No tobacco strategy for Wales with funding varying within 3 regions  
Report being compiled on best practice/next steps  
Regulations relating to shelters are different in each region possible work here?














**Action:**

- 1 Nigel McMahon to update group on published overview of research in NI.
- 2 Gary McFarlane to update group on research work on smoking ban/indoor air quality
- 3 Julie Barratt to update group on report when published.
- 4 Share any evidence based papers on coronary heart disease and asthma
- 5 CHD: figures/analysis from Scotland/Wales

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH\\_4094275](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_4094275)

Key		Web Link
Northern Ireland		
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<b>Skin Cancer</b>		
<b>Sun beds</b>		
	Concerns over children using sun bed unattended (coin operated machines etc)	<a href="http://www.comare.org.uk/comare_work.htm">http://www.comare.org.uk/comare_work.htm</a>
	COMARE through Assembly investigating sun beds UV exposure.	
	Mystery shopper exercise with 21 salons disregarding regulations	
	Lobbying Minister to tighten regulations	
	Looking at regulation sun bed for personal use	
	Sun beds still being used in 6 LA	
		
	No LAs have sun beds in leisure facilities	
	Sun Bed Working Group paper being written at present	
		
	Ban on coin operated sun beds	
	Not allowed for under 18 for use or operating	
	Power to enter home for those using sun beds commercially	<a href="http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/acts2008/asp_20080005_en_1">http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/acts2008/asp_20080005_en_1</a>
<b>Action:</b>		
	1 George Morris to update meeting when legislation is operational	
	2 All: consensus - should regulations be tightened and if so what alternatives will people use?	
	3 Nigel McMahan to follow up on SBWG	
	4 COMARE report on sunbeds to published June 2009 Gary McFarlane to forward copy to group	
<b>Melantan Injections</b>		
		
	Update on melantan attached	<a href="http://evidencebasedonly.blogspot.com/2008/01/is-melanotan-safe-to-take.html">http://evidencebasedonly.blogspot.com/2008/01/is-melanotan-safe-to-take.html</a>
<b>Action:</b>		
	1 All to forward relevant documentation to their departments for further investigation and report back with findings	
	Gary McFarlane thanked Stephanie Powell for her report of Melantan and update on wished her every success with her research on same.	

Key			
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<b>Alcohol</b>		Booklet circulated addressing alcohol misuse and the issues.	<a href="http://www.wlga.gov.uk/english/library/alcohol-misuse-report/">http://www.wlga.gov.uk/english/library/alcohol-misuse-report/</a>
<b>Issues:</b>	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supermarkets selling alcohol as lost leaders causing over consumption</li> <li>Happy hours - cheap cocktails etc</li> <li>Noise and litter</li> <li>Anti social behaviour</li> <li>Public protection issue for others</li> </ul>	
<b>Action:</b>	Agreed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Better engagement with the police and other services</li> <li>2 Working with licensee on consumption and pricing</li> <li>3 Further test purchase using young people</li> <li>4 Share research on how to change people's behaviour on consumption etc</li> <li>5 Document to written by three regions on the way ahead</li> </ul>	
<b>E.coli outbreak in Wales</b>			
<b>Overview:</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Julie Barratt gave an outline leading up to outbreak and overview of the chair of inquiry Hugh Pennington</li> <li>FSA Wales response to inquiry</li> <li>How can EHO's deal with someone deliberately falsifying documents</li> <li>Public sector procurement and central arrangements and issue of value over quality</li> <li>Hygiene in school toilets and infection control</li> <li>Training EHOs on giving evidence</li> <li>After care of EHOs who have given evidence at court</li> <li>Better use of specialist technical advisors on cleaning regimes.</li> <li>Robust interventions in slaughterhouse.</li> <li>Better dealing with media for EHOs</li> <li>Palmer/Jones staff management practices and inspection risk ratings</li> <li>It is impossible for EHOs to deliver accurate Food Hygiene Inspections if there is a clear criminal element which ultimately would require forensic inspections</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="http://wales.gov.uk/ecoliinquiry/faqs/?lang=en">http://wales.gov.uk/ecoliinquiry/faqs/?lang=en</a></li> <li><a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hugh_Pennington">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hugh_Pennington</a></li> <li><a href="http://www.food.gov.uk/news/newsarchive/2006/jan/ecolicmo">http://www.food.gov.uk/news/newsarchive/2006/jan/ecolicmo</a></li> </ul>
<b>Action:</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Share details on specialist technical advisors</li> <li>2 Share best practice in slaughterhouses</li> <li>3 Look at media training for EHOs on media/giving evidence</li> <li>4 Look at procedure for public sector procurement</li> </ul>	<a href="http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/iafp/iafp/2008/00000071/00000003/art00013">http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/iafp/iafp/2008/00000071/00000003/art00013</a>

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Northern Ireland		
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<b>Communication</b>		
All	<p>Four elements to better communication were agreed</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Emerging Issues</li> <li>2 Best Practice/Lessons Learned</li> <li>3 Research</li> <li>4 Professional positioning</li> </ol>	
	 To create contact lists of specialist /technical groups to be shared with other services.	
<b>Action:</b>	 Matrix for 3 regions to communicate virtually to create network of information every 8 weeks and posted on all websites Future collaboration with PHS	<a href="http://www.nphs.wales.nhs.uk/">http://www.nphs.wales.nhs.uk/</a>
<b>Public Sector Reforms</b>		
	 Gary McFarlane presented an overview of scheduled health and social reforms and review of public health in Northern Ireland	<a href="http://www.northernireland.gov.uk/news/news-dhssps/news-dhssps-010708-health-and-social.htm">http://www.northernireland.gov.uk/news/news-dhssps/news-dhssps-010708-health-and-social.htm</a> <a href="http://www.nilqa.org/template1.asp?pid=721&amp;area=2">http://www.nilqa.org/template1.asp?pid=721&amp;area=2</a>
	 22 Local Authorities 22 Health Boards coterminous Consultation in February 2008 to reduce 7 9 or 11 7 is preferred Public Service good model with little duplication National Advisory Board - outline of local health model October 2009 WAG proposal outlined	<a href="http://www.opsi.gov.uk/ACTS/acts1998/ukpga_19980038_en_1">http://www.opsi.gov.uk/ACTS/acts1998/ukpga_19980038_en_1</a> <a href="http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=262&amp;pid=34388">http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=262&amp;pid=34388</a> <a href="http://wales.gov.uk/publications/accessinfo/drnewhomepage/healthdrs/healthdrs2007/1932074/?lang=en">http://wales.gov.uk/publications/accessinfo/drnewhomepage/healthdrs/healthdrs2007/1932074/?lang=en</a>
	 14 Health Board 32 Local Authorities no coterminosity Explanations on Single Outcome Agreement The Convention of Scottish Local Authorities	<a href="http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2008/06/30092907">http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2008/06/30092907</a> <a href="http://www.cosla.gov.uk/">http://www.cosla.gov.uk/</a>
	 Both Scotland and Wales discussed process of reforms in their areas  and what affect these changes have impacted on EHOs	
<b>Action:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 NI should position itself robustly in profiling itself on all committees etc</li> <li>2 Beware that their roles could be reduced to a regulatory function</li> <li>3 Need to preserve and strengthen their role and showcase their role within LAs actively promote itself with MLA etc</li> </ol>	
<b>Best Practice</b>		
	 Best Practice Standards 08/09	<a href="http://www.cieh-cymruwales.org/uploadedFiles/Core/Directorate/Research_reports/re_thinking_audit_inspection.pdf">http://www.cieh-cymruwales.org/uploadedFiles/Core/Directorate/Research_reports/re_thinking_audit_inspection.pdf</a>
	 Good places better health	<a href="http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/12/11090318/0">http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/12/11090318/0</a>
	 Stem	<a href="http://www.stemproject.com/case_studies.php?case=7754&amp;">http://www.stemproject.com/case_studies.php?case=7754&amp;</a>
	Community Eco-Challenge	<a href="http://www.sqehc.com/Community%20Eco-Challenge.aspx">http://www.sqehc.com/Community%20Eco-Challenge.aspx</a>

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<b>LBRO/RES Act</b>	Local Better Regulation Office 2007	<a href="http://www.berr.gov.uk/whatwedo/consumers/enforcement/lbro/index.html">http://www.berr.gov.uk/whatwedo/consumers/enforcement/lbro/index.html</a>
	Regulatory Enforcement and Sanction Act 2008	<a href="http://www.berr.gov.uk/whatwedo/bre/inspection-enforcement/implementing-principles/sanctions-bills/page44047.html">http://www.berr.gov.uk/whatwedo/bre/inspection-enforcement/implementing-principles/sanctions-bills/page44047.html</a>
<b>Overview:</b>	 Only relates to reserved matter very little legally covered in NI	
	Possibility of a memorandum of understanding including primary authority	
	Draft agreement reached	
	Perception in that LBRO is really an attempt at a solution to an English problem	
	 No place for LBRO other than those limited reserved matters it covers	
	Scotland aspires to have it own "world class" regulatory system.	
	Little has been done in last 12 months primarily due to internal difficulties in COLSA see previous web link	
	Clear division between trading standards and environmental health	
	 Do not care for it and don't think it is appropriate but it was imposed due to nature of reserved matter.	
	Some pilot possibilities for primary authorities	
	LBRO perception it is using Wales as a 'test bed' perhaps because of size and existing structures.	
<b>Action:</b>	MOU to be shared in January 2008 from Barny Heywood	
	LACORS shifting to LGA what is the future - shared paper outlining proposals to be written	
<b>Community Planning</b>	 Statutory requirement	<a href="http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2004/04/19168/35271">http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2004/04/19168/35271</a>
	involvement with education body, policy, health boards social workers	<a href="http://bellacaledonia.wordpress.com/2007/12/05/cultural-planning-in-scotland-%E2%80%93-leading-the-w">http://bellacaledonia.wordpress.com/2007/12/05/cultural-planning-in-scotland-%E2%80%93-leading-the-w</a>
	Good cohesive thinking on community planning being developed and delivered.	
	 Perception of community planning is poor EHOs try to avoid CP	
	No joined up thinking between EHOs and groups.	
	Individual working groups want to do their on their on thing.	
	 Delivery and skill set - gulf between the two	
	Need to fit and facilitate core understanding of what community planning	
	Little understanding of full benefits of community planning in Las	
<b>Action:</b>	All	
	Strategic papers to be produced and core understanding of what community planning is developed.	

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