

Appointment of Public Analyst and Deputy Agricultural Analyst

City of Edinburgh Council

26 June 2003

1 Purpose of report

- 1.1 The City of Edinburgh Council is requested to appoint Robert Beattie as Public Analyst in terms of the Food Safety Act 1990, and as Deputy Agricultural Analyst in terms of the Agriculture Act 1970.

2 Main report

Background

- 2.1 Under the terms of the Food Safety Act 1990, the City of Edinburgh Council is required to appoint one or more persons to act as Public Analyst. Under the terms 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.
- 2.2 The qualifications for these statutory appointments are specified in the Food (Sampling and Qualifications) Regulations 1990, the Fertilisers (Sampling and Analysis) Regulations 1996 and the Feeding Stuffs (Sampling and Analysis) Regulations 1999.
- 2.3 The Regulations specify that a person appointed as Public Analyst must possess the qualification Mastership in Chemical Analysis (MChemA) awarded by the Royal Society of Chemistry.

A person appointed as Agricultural Analyst or Deputy Agricultural Analyst must either possess the qualification MChemA or must be a Chartered Chemist, and the person's practical experience must be attested by another Agricultural Analyst.

Current Situation

- 2.4 The Council's Head of Analytical and Scientific Services is currently appointed Public Analyst, and Agricultural Analyst for the City of Edinburgh Council. He also holds the appointments of Public Analyst and Agricultural Analyst for seven other Local Authorities.

- 2.5 In view of the increasing volume and complexity of the work of Analytical and Scientific Services, it has been necessary to appoint a Depute Manager for the Service.

Mr Robert Beattie, currently employed by Dundee City Council Scientific Services, has been appointed to the post of Depute Manager. He takes up his post with the Council on 2 June 2003.

- 2.6 The duties attached to the post of Depute Manager include responsibility for performing the statutory functions of Public Analyst and Deputy Agricultural Analyst.

- 2.7 Mr Beattie has been awarded the qualification Mastership in Chemical Analysis. He is also a Chartered Chemist (CChem), being a Member of the Royal Society of Chemistry (MRSC).

Mr Beattie's practical experience of analysis of agricultural materials has been attested by appointed Agricultural Analysts.

Therefore, Mr Beattie satisfies the prescribed qualifications for a Public Analyst and Deputy Agricultural Analyst.

3 Financial Implications

- 3.1 The cost of appointment of the Depute Manager – Analytical and Scientific Services is contained within the Department's revenue budget. There are no additional costs associated with the statutory appointments.

4 Recommendations

- 4.1 Council is requested to approve Robert Beattie to undertake the statutory appointments of Public Analyst and Deputy Agricultural Analyst for the City of Edinburgh Council.


J M Drewry
Director of Environmental and Consumer Services

22/5/03

Appendices	None
Contact/tel	Dr Andrew Mackie, Head of Analytical and Scientific Services Tel: 0131 555 7982
Wards affected	All
Background Papers	The legislation referred to in this Report is available from the contact officer.