

# Overview from London

Meeting of Council

30<sup>th</sup> April 2009

Report from Graham Jukes, Chief Executive

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## 1. Summary and recommendations

1.1 This report summarises the activities and progress in CIEH London led by the London Regional Policy Officer, Tay Potier. This report does not include the activities of the London Regional Management Board or related study groups.

1.2 Council is recommended to note the report.

## 2. Details

Work has continued to support environmental health in London and to raise the profile of environmental health and the CIEH within the Region and further afield. The following provide further information on the key work programme themes.

### 2.1 Key work programme themes

#### 2.1.1 Student development, recruitment and retention in London

- *Student Development Programme* – the programme has continued to run attracting good uptake by students within London – sessions on the ELP continue to be very well attended and in demand.
- *Student Consortium* – Students have continued to be supported by this scheme and two further students have been taken on to replace those who have managed to secure paid placements with local authorities. A leaflet summarising the scheme has also been produced for distribution to interested parties.
- *Other student support* - CIEH London with the London Student Development Officer continues to work to support students in London and to try and maximise training opportunities.

### 2.1.2 Food safety

CIEH London continues to be involved in a number of programmes. These include:

- *Scores on the Doors* – CIEH London continues to support this project working as a key member of the Implementation Group. This work continues to align the scheme with the other nationally operating schemes.
- *Olympics and Paralympics 2012* - CIEH London has been working with the Strategic Projects Director and the London Food Co-ordinating Group to develop strategies to support the event including capacity and capability, mobile catering and bed and breakfasts.
- *Food study around Secondary Schools* – CIEH London will be working with the implementation group and the development of the healthy eating award.
- *Healthy Eating Award* – following the successful CIEH/LACORS/TSI meeting earlier in 2009, CIEH London is hosting a workshop with London representatives on the 28 April 2009. This workshop will aim to develop a framework for an award which could operate across London.
- *Other areas* – CIEH London continues to work as a member of the London Food Co-ordinating Group.

### 2.1.3 Health and safety

- CIEH London continues to work closely with the HSE Local Authority Unit Partnership Project for London and meets with the Partnership Team on a regular basis. A new partnership liaison manager has been appointed and CIEH London is looking forward to working with her. CIEH London would also like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing manager, Jan Francis for her excellent work in supporting health and safety in London over the last three years.
- CIEH London continues to engage with health and safety in London and to look to raise the profile of this area of work. An excellent themed ALEHM meeting was held at the end of 2008 and work will continue to try to raise the profile of this service area.
- CIEH London also continues to contribute to work around increasing resourcing for health and safety in London and to look for opportunities to develop staff working in the area.

### 2.1.4 Environmental/Sustainability

- *Engagement with the GLA* - CIEH London and London Region study groups will be working with the GLA to help develop a London-wide Code of Practice on Construction Noise.

### 2.1.5 Contingency planning

- *London Resilience* – CIEH London continues to be involved in the London Resilience Forum chaired by the Government Office for London.
- *Scientific Services* – It has not proved possible to identify funding for this contract in London and so a single contract for the capital will not now

operate. Individual boroughs or smaller consortia are still encouraged to consider entering into an arrangement.

- *Scientific and Technical Advisory Cell (STAC)* – CIEH London continues to work with the HPA Emergency Planning Team to define and strengthen Environmental Health involvement into the STAC in London.

#### 2.1.6 Public health

- *Joint London EHP* – The successful applicant has now started work and CIEH London is now managing the postholder. Scoping work has commenced and a project plan produced. A poster on the project was also produced and displayed at the London Health Protection Seminar recently and an abstract is being submitted for a national health protection conference.
- As part of this project, a survey of boroughs and HPU units is being carried out during the summer of 2009 with recommendations to follow during the year. It is anticipated that this project will continue to run for 2010 and funding is available for this.
- *Smoke free London and NE London Alliance* – CIEH London has continued to be involved in this Department of Health funded project for work around shisha bars as part of the project board. Several workshops have been held and these have been used to frame the work of the group.
- The project will produce guidance for operators, users and enforcement officers on this area and a national seminar is being planned to publicise the outcomes.
- CIEH London maintains involvement in the following areas:
  - *UK Voluntary register for defined specialists* - overview and support for London applicants within environmental health. Watching brief maintained.
  - *London teaching Public Health Network* - involvement in a London network to support and develop public health training.
  - *London Health Commission* - representing environmental health on the urban regeneration and inequalities task force.
  - *London Regional School Food Group* – involvement in a London regional network on school food.
  - *Greener Food Steering Group* – London network on local and sustainable food and premises in London.

#### 2.1.7 Strategy and regional development/support

- *Benchmarking* – CIEH London has worked with the ALEHM best value benchmarking group on the 2008 surveys and has been involved in the CIPFA Environmental Health Working Party. Outcomes from the LBRO project in this area will help formulate further work around this in 2009..
- *ALEHM* – CIEH London Policy Officer has continued to work very closely with ALEHM as a Director and currently chairs the meetings.
- *London Region* – CIEH London has been supporting the Housing Policy and Renewal, Food, Health and Safety and Pollution study groups operating in London as necessary.

### 3. Implications

Environmental:	None
Equal opportunities:	None
Financial:	Within existing resources
Legal:	None
Personnel:	Within existing resources
Public health:	None
Public relations:	None
Background Papers:	Tay Potier, London Regional Policy Officer
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