



## CORPORATE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE – 15TH SEPTEMBER 2008

**SUBJECT: RECENT LEGIONELLA CONCERNS**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES**

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### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Members, Management and Trade Union Safety Representatives of recent concerns with the contract to carry out legionella assessments.

### 2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 There are currently 3 contracts in place for the completion of legionella risk assessments and for annual, 6 monthly and quarterly checks on water systems in accordance with legislation and HSE guidance.
- 2.2 Concerns were highlighted in April 2008 as to the quality of the legionella risk assessment carried out by Aquastat on Newbridge Leisure Centre.
- 2.3 Concerns focused on whether the assessment was suitable and sufficient in that it failed to identify sentinel taps as is required in L8. The assessment also appeared to miss a significant number of dead legs.
- 2.4 As a result an independent company accredited by the Legionella Control Association was engaged to carry out new assessments as a quality check on 3 premises, this involved one assessment carried out by each of the 3 contractors.
- 2.5 The results of the quality checks showed that 2 of the assessments were to an acceptable standard however the third assessment was not suitable and sufficient.
- 2.6 The contractor concerned believes the substandard assessment to be as a result of the work of one engineer and is undertaking new assessments on all premises initially assessed by that engineer.
- 2.7 A further 2 new assessments have been commissioned to be carried out on premises initially assessed by Aquastat but completed by a different engineer. Building Consultancy are also carrying out quality checks on the new assessments carried out by Aquastat to ensure that the new assessments are to an acceptable standard in accordance with legal requirements.
- 2.8 The results of the further quality checks will allow a decision to be made as to whether any further action is necessary to ensure that the Authority is in compliance with legislation and is taken reasonable steps to protect the health and safety of employees and others.

### **3. RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 That the contents of the report be noted.
- 3.2 That a further report is brought to the next meeting providing an update on the outcome of the additional checks.

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Consultees: Nigel Barnett, Director of Corporate Services  
Gareth Hardacre, Head of People Management and Development  
Councillor Allan Pritchard, Cabinet Member for Human Resources and Constitutional Affairs