

DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC PROTECTION WALES

Minutes of the Port Health Expert Panel Meeting

Held at the Bell Country Inn, Llanyre
On Friday 26th October 2018

Present

Gill Morgan (Chair)	Swansea Bay Port Health Authority
Carwyn Thomas (Sec)	Pembrokeshire County Council
Paul Lindsay	Flintshire Council
Seren Linton	Swansea Bay Port Health Authority
Chris Brereton	Welsh Govt
Sion Lingard	Public Health Wales
Kathryn Hughes	FSA Wales
Helen Griffiths	SRS (Cardiff)
Lindsay Horth	Newport Council

Apologies

Kelly Lee	Newport Council
Keith Rowlands	Anglesey Council

Item	Matter	Action
1	Welcome & introductions (including apologies) Apologies as above.	
2	Minutes of the last meeting & matters arising Minutes agreed as accurate. Matters arising: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Training – Alan Johnson (PHE) is retiring but may come back as a consultant. He would be the best person to provide ship's water training. It may be easier to book him after his retirement.b. ACC's (Ship's water) – PHW liaising with PHE on this issue. WHO – not relevant unless regular testing. CT – "Ship's Water Guide" – any progress. GM – slow. CB – willing to raise if required.	
3	Working with MCA Not in attendance.	
4	PHW update (SL) <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Recent death on board a vessel bound for Milford Haven, last port – Nigeria. Russian national. Port Health contacted Brendan Mason (CCDC). Relevant	

	<p>questions asked to Captain as vessel arriving within incubation period for certain diseases. No sign that the cause was anything infectious. Brendan contacted Focal Point just for completeness. TARIAN used by PHW for logging/sharing info – useful tool for dealing with cases (confidential secure system). Worth all PHO's getting trained on its use. CT – yes discussion with Brendan at the time. Pembs PHO's will be receiving training on this soon.</p> <p>b. Water – legionella case on Holyhead ferry during incubation period. Recently sampled and legionella found. However, no direct link found.</p> <p>c. Authorisations for PMO's/Proper Officers – new consultants starting – letters out to notify LA's. Wording may need looking at to enable local assistance from Hospital Dr's etc. Pembrokeshire's a good example – could be used as template.</p>	All
5	<p>Welsh Govt update (CB)</p> <p>Bethan Jones (WG) wanted meeting – resource implications of export of fishery products. She had hoped to attend today. KH – no std certificates. EU exports – number unknown. Guidance available.</p> <p>GM – currently 3rd country export – DEFRA, Carlisle (POAO). Clarification on export to EU after Brexit needed, especially when composite products, e.g. biscuits (animal fat). Charging? Can LA's charge? In England – yes (Localism Act). In Wales – not in force. Local arrangements in place. Big debate about how to standardise approach. List of food/feed where LA's responsible for certification. Issues: setting up std system/monitoring/payment etc. Current doc – work in progress – out for consideration. CB: dialogue needed with Fisheries. KH: 66 fishery consignments through Holyhead since records started. CT: meetings – bimonthly. CT to pass details of all future meetings to all at the time. CB: need contact re. shellfish. Gill? Yes, agreed. Gill will gather info/queries and pass to group.</p> <p>Public Health Bill: Competence assessment for certain activities, e.g. tattooing/piercing etc. RSPH involved to provide std. Trade conferences set up in North & South.</p> <p>ROF: WG against independent FSA in Wales WG – ROF – supporting LA's in Wales to undertake Food</p>	CT GM

	<p>function. Group set up to look at ROF and maintain observation. Newsletter out yesterday – “myth busting” section – good read. Other matters looked at: PAP/NIS Trial of online registration – going well May extend to Permit to Trade/Licensing – income stream for LA’s Next stage – Stds/Feed Discussion re. Food hygiene/stds inspections Allergens – recent tragic deaths – impetus to review labelling Use of epi-pen – info out. Shortage in Wales. Discussion re. possible score for stds/allergens – like FHRS</p> <p>Mosquito survey: Funding has been withdrawn LA’s still doing it? Position unclear going forward. Voluntary at the moment.</p> <p>KH: suspected case of <i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i> in Cornwall – was it confirmed. SL will check.</p>	
6	<p>WG Fisheries (Brexit update) CT read out email from Mark Tilling: main points: <i>Welsh Government have begun working with relevant Local Authorities, the Food Standards Agency, Hauliers and Ferry Companies to determine the extent of indirect landings into Welsh ports and brief local authorities on any requirements they need to satisfy should certain EU exit scenarios prevail.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Direct landings into the UK from third country fishing vessels will remain the responsibility of Welsh Government for catch certificate checks.</i> • <i>Indirect landings via lorry/ferry will be the responsibility of Local Authorities in Wales. If the UK leaves the UK with limited agreements in place (short of a hard exit) the inspection of catch certificates which accompany fish consignments will need to be checked. There is a distinct possibility this could be from day 1 of EU exit. The numbers could be significant.</i> • <i>LA’s have not previously recorded data as there was not a requirement to do so. However, some data has been captured recently and has been provided to Welsh Government to begin estimating possible resource requirements</i> • <i>Welsh Government have approached haulage companies in Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland and requested movement data for fish, shellfish and</i> 	

	<p><i>relevant related products. This data will help WG estimate the likely throughput of the same and provide LA guidance on the likely resource they will require to satisfy such checks.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Welsh government have also approached Ferry companies for manifest information and hope to visit one of the affected ports soon.</i> • <i>Welsh Government have been asked by LA's on the possibility of funding to assist recruitment of staff (if necessary) to enable such checks to take place. Officials are investigating any possibility of the same.</i> • <i>WG have set up a bi-monthly (at least) meeting to inform affected local authorities of developments as and when they arise.</i> <p>Other matters covered above</p>	
7	<p>FSA update (KH) ROF guidance note came out yesterday RIAMS – to become - Smarter Comms – new system, all new doc's on there. All LA's have a "super-user" who can provide info/support on using it. FSA happy to receive feedback – Jason Coward leading, including online registration/comms etc. LH: will it be extended to Feed? KH: maybe natural progression, but need to get Food right first.</p> <p>Technical advice notes x3 re. Brexit issued FSA also – Q&A doc – good source of answers to frequent questions</p> <p>Training: imported foods – new module (legislation and enforcement) Liverpool PHA – offering training face to face FSAW currently looking at Wales training session (N&S) based on existing legislation and possible changes. Bringing officers up to date. Push to get more people thinking about imports.</p> <p>COP: amendments out for consultation.</p> <p>Existing code competencies for officer – training to be arranged (Jan-Mar). Consultation (end next week) Wales enforcing legislation. LA guidance: export to non-EU countries Query from Jeff Beynon: What checks on high risk food/feed if risks change? Ans: (John Furzer) assuming 'no deal' – divert to alternate port (with BIP) On day 1 – risk basis will not change, so no need to change</p>	

	<p>processes, but as time goes on, changes may be required. GM: also IT systems not geared up for change.</p> <p>Animal Feed: info required on no. of consignments. LH will speak with all relevant LA's.</p>	
8	<p>Brexit (standing item) Any other issues: Lots of DEFRA technical notes on various issues – Pet Passports, RDF exports, Live animals etc. GM: ICW another potential issue for PH. CT: agreed to investigate ICW as will apply to all ports National Audit Office – Brexit report – interesting read.</p>	CT
9	<p>APHA Update (GM) Training event (18-10-18) – mainly focussing on EU exit issues. More info likely in Nov. DEFRA – still developing ideas/policies TRACES – replacement system – progress? Not yet.</p> <p>APHA membership – some major ports coming back (so long as officers lead). Reorg hopefully by next AGM.</p> <p>LH: OPSS – link to APHA? Would be good way to get info – stop unsafe products at ports.</p>	
10	<p>ITF – Tommy Molloy (GM) Maritime Labour Convention 2006. Came into force in 2013 – establishes minimum working and living stds for all seafarers working on vessel flagged by ratifying countries. Covers: terms of employment, safety stds, medical care, food provision etc. etc. Any concerns, especially if approached by crew member, can be passed to Nautilus International, International Transport Workers Federation (ITF) ITF inspector: Tommy Molloy tmolloy@nautilusint.org molloy_tommy@itf.org.uk 0151 6398454 / 07764182768 Happy to attend meeting and give further info</p>	
11	<p>AOB: HG: update SRS – Cardiff airport info – no import/export to EU Some things from India (clothes), monkfruit extract, wine Possibility of export of milk/fish to China in future Review FSMS for airlines Some airlines (TUI/Flybe) not registered – further work on this ongoing</p> <p>LH: Organic products – currently doing work on this, if anyone</p>	

	<p>in similar work to contact</p> <p>KH: Advice re. cadmium/arsenic in scallops from Cardigan Bay – MOD work. Decision – no whole scallops to go to market – approved shucking establishments only route to market. Proper shucking reduces the risk, as contaminants present in organs not muscle. CT: what about areas close by, e.g. Pembs coast? Unclear. CT to investigate further.</p>	CT
12	Next meeting: 25 th Jan 2019	All