

## DIRECTORS OF PUBLIC PROTECTION WALES

### Minutes of the Port Health Expert Panel/Wales PLaN Meeting

Held at the Bell Country Inn, Llanyre  
On Friday 25th January 2019

#### 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
Lindsay Horth	Newport Council
Kelly Lee	Newport Council
Rowan Hughes	SRS
Kate Thompson	CIEH

#### Apologies

Keith Rowlands	Anglesey Council
Chris Brereton	Welsh Govt
Sion Lingard	PHW

Item	Matter	Action
1	<p><b>Welcome &amp; introductions (including apologies)</b> The group welcomed Kate Thompson, who was attending for the first time. Apologies as above.</p>	
2	<p><b>Minutes of the last meeting &amp; matters arising</b> Minutes agreed as accurate. a. RH – query re. ROF</p>	
3	<p><b>Working with MCA</b> Not in attendance. It was agreed that the group would make contact with MCA to try and re-establish attendance if possible.</p>	
4	<p><b>PHW update (SL)</b> – not in attendance, but update and apology provided by Sion following the meeting</p>	
5	<p><b>Welsh Govt update (CB)</b> – not in attendance</p>	
6	<p><b>EU Exit – recent feedback/matters arising –</b> PL provided feedback following CIEH event in Morecambe. Catch Certificate training (Jan 9<sup>th</sup>) – direct landings – WG; indirect landings – PHAs. RH – airport – enquiry re. crabs to China – didn't go anywhere PL – language issues on certs – difficult to read</p>	

CT – a lot of extra work might be needed.  
Elec system being developed by WG  
Current system – paper heavy

FSA has written to approved premises – need to register if continue to export to EU countries.  
CT – what about those that export, but not approved – e.g. live shellfish exporters. Up to LAs to make contact?  
TRACES replacement work ongoing – by end Jan?  
INS – “import notification system”  
Training will be offered  
Importers/exporters will need to register  
Organics – paper base likely (for imports)

Export Health certs – new system (APHA)  
Currently 72,000 certs issued annually  
Possible increase of 300% after March

Fisheries: Monday meeting – clarity required re. likely work, e.g. Anglesey 800 certs issued last year

WG dedicated fishery team – but there’s a need to look wider at other POAO/High risk FNAO

Clarity needed re. issuing EHCs – can multi consignments can go on 1 cert?? unclear.  
Reg docs too for shellfish – bivalve  
CCs for fish too

This is in addition to EHCs

LAs need info on potential work

KT: CIEH – involved in “export working group” – making sure voice of EHPs heard and they continue to be recognised as ‘certifying officers’ for the purpose of signing export health certificates for certain products.

The predicted increase in demand for EHCs -likely to have significant impact on vets and EH. Most vet signed EHCs done by vets in private sector who have received specific APHA training (which they have to pay to attend). APHA concerned insufficient vet capacity so introducing new role of ‘certification support officer’ as trusted assistants to vets. APHA developing 1 day on-line training for CSOs.

LA staff who are not food authorised EHOs may be able to access the CSO training but CSOs will not be able to sign EHCs. APHA have some concerns about EH capacity. Looking at options.

	<p>Concern now re. extra volume of work coming - fishery and composite products</p> <p>Possibility of other LA (non-food) staff doing this work, if suitably trained.</p> <p>Private sector? Could they be used?</p> <p>Also, the issue of some matters being devolved, in Wales</p> <p>CT: physical/doc check?  KT: physical checks will be required.  KT: what are LAs concerns? E.g. capacity/resources etc.  Who's currently doing this work? Can they cope with any additional work? Who else could assist? Private/retired?</p> <p>PL: if income stream, why not pay LAs?  CT – potential for 24-hour work – would need more than 1 or 2 people, even if income stream could only support 1 or 2 people.</p> <p>KT: e.g. feed/food funding ring fenced – could similar approach be taken?</p> <p>GM: WG asked question of possible sharing resources across LA's, especially if work is seasonal etc.</p> <p>What about WG using Transition Fund to help LAs/small business do this work in first few years.</p> <p>GM/KT – small business will suffer – cost of EHCs not viable for small consignments</p> <p>DEFRA/APHA – personnel changes causing issues of consistency etc.</p> <p>LH: food industry in Wales very important. Could AH officers undertake part of this role?  KT: need to ensure that we future proof the role  CIEH is pushing for this work to be included in the student EHO course  RH: private sector EHOs out there too – possibility</p> <p>KT: APHA has stressed importance of paperwork/certs – needs to be accurate</p> <p>General discussion on issue of EHCs</p> <p>GM: update email from SWilkinson  APHA – std template for export to EU</p>	<p><b>All</b></p>
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	<p>Exporters encouraged to consolidate consignments (to reduce cost/burden on LAs - unclear)</p> <p>To do: LAs to assess local businesses – scale/nature of work if exporting – will assist with recourse planning etc.</p> <p>Another questionnaire from WHOEHG re. resources – need to complete</p> <p>FSA funding available for LAs for any extra Brexit work in Wales In England – LAs have received money already for this. Another WG Fisheries Brexit meeting – 6/2/19</p>	
7	<p><b>APHA update (Port Health Assoc.)</b></p> <p>Improvements – new members &amp; promise of money from FSA</p> <p>LA re. memex – sharing intelligence. Could APHA facilitate this? GM: unlikely PL: Fees? GM: slight increase</p> <p>GM: SSC charges increase – in line with inflation – Apr 1st</p>	
8	<p><b>MoU MCA</b></p> <p>Need to include devolved admins – PHW/WG Sion/Chris to be consulted</p>	<b>GM</b>
9	<p><b>Ship's Water</b></p> <p>ACCs – PHE/PHW – new policy – not testing for ACCs on ship's water samples – bring in line with WHO guide. ACCs not relevant unless regular testing. Labs should all be aware.</p>	
10	<p><b>AOB:</b></p> <p>RH: Legionella – procedure available? GM – yes – based on Belfast plan. Will share When to sample – indicators: illness, temps, cleaning etc.</p> <p>Training? Combine water with EHCs – early summer??</p> <p>RH: vessel arrived recently in poor condition – MCA detained. SSCC issued in Turkey but no indication why/defects GM: ERF should/could be attached CT: queries to Martin Walker – contact with WHO</p> <p>RH: airport – no changes Food business – online registration – seen increase in requests</p> <p>KL: Gwent LRF – Civil contingencies – MCA Alun Newsome</p>	

	<p>gave talk re. emergency issues on vessels and port facilities available</p> <p>LH: any feed issues – notify your feed rep in LA</p> <p>KT: CIEH – info available on prep for Brexit on website – how most vulnerable in society could suffer from food price increase etc.</p> <p>Conference next week in London. Trying to make events more accessible – see “Events” on website – various available Will continue APHA liaison and provide updates</p> <p>RH – training of EHCs – minimum sizes of fish an issue? No – WG enforced issue</p>	
11	<b>Next meeting:</b> 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2019	<b>All</b>

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