

Port Health & Public Protection Enforcement Activity Period 2 (August–November) 2015-16

Food Safety	2014-2015 Annual Total	2015-16 Target (where applicable)	2015-16 Period 2 Total (Year to date totals are shown in brackets)
Programmed inspections	Food Hygiene: 864 Food Standards: 286	Food Hygiene: 1027 Food Standards: 457	Food Hygiene: 283 (598) Food Standards: 84 (197)
Hygiene Emergency Closures	0	N/A	0 (1)
Voluntary closures	9	N/A	0 (4)
Complaints & service requests received	293	N/A	80 (173)
Notices served	23	N/A	5 (8)
Prosecutions	0	N/A	0 (0)

Period 2 - Food Safety Team Highlights

- One long standing EHO of the Food Safety Team retired in September and the Principal EHO at Smithfield Market also retired at the end of October, both of whom are not being replaced as part of our **Service Based Review** savings.
- Officers prepared the ground for implementation of the new team structure, reorganising and mapping the food premises districts and moving (nearly 2000) files to reflect the planned changes.
- The office was also reorganised to reflect the two new Commercial teams created following the **Service Based Review**.
- The procedures used by food officers were also reviewed to help address changes in structure and in enforcing the current Food Law Code.
- **Training** was organised and delivered to officers on meat and meat product recognition at Smithfield Market; this was in addition to the planned training provision and was specifically designed to enhance officers' skills should they be called upon to deal with meat incidents out of hours.
- The **Food Standards Agency (FSA)** carried out an **audit** of the planning and delivery of our official (food) controls. The auditors made a three day site visit from 30 November – 2 December. As evidence, the auditors viewed Committee reports and premises file records, interviewed staff and visited a local food business with an officer for a so called 'reality check'. The FSA will issue their draft report just prior to Christmas and an action plan will be prepared to address their recommendations.
- A trainee Environmental Health Practitioner was engaged to follow up on earlier work to promote and improve the display of **Food Hygiene Rating Scheme** stickers in City food premises (with compliant ratings of 3, 4 or 5) as part of a London-wide project. 173 City premises which were not displaying a sticker received a face-to-face visit resulting in an increase in rates of display of almost 20%.
- Audits were completed of the central production facilities of the 16 contract caterers on the Remembrancer's approved caterers list who provide **Guildhall event catering**. All the caterers except one passed the audit, and this business has been removed from the list until a further audit is carried out at its new premises.

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Food Hygiene Rating Scheme (FHRS) Profile of food businesses in the City of London

		Hygiene Rating						Total no. of food businesses in the City included in the FHRS
		5	4	3	2	1	0	
Number (%) of food businesses	March 2013	925 (58%)	345 (22%)	171 (11%)	69 (4%)	61 (4%)	12 (1%)	1583
	August 2013	908 (56%)	378 (23%)	168 (10%)	83 (5%)	67 (4%)	25 (2%)	1629
	29 November 2013	903 (55%)	387 (23%)	172 (10%)	98 (6%)	70 (4%)	24 (2%)	1654
	31 March 2014	880 (53%)	374 (23%)	182 (11%)	104 (6%)	74 (5%)	23 (1%)	1661 (incl. 24 awaiting inspection)
	31 July 2014	898 (54%)	374 (23%)	174 (10%)	102 (6%)	67 (4%)	19 (1%)	1661 (incl. 27 awaiting inspection)
	1 December 2014	919 (55%)	380 (23%)	175 (10%)	92 (6%)	58 (4%)	17 (1%)	1675 (incl. 34 awaiting inspection)
	31 March 2015	960 (57%)	361 (21%)	165 (10%)	88 (5%)	64 (4%)	18 (1%)	1692 (incl. 36 awaiting inspection)
	31 July 2015	1014 (59%)	361 (21%)	158 (9%)	77 (4.5%)	58 (3.5%)	8 (0.5%)	1721 (incl. 45 awaiting inspection)
	30 November 2015	1049 (60%)	360 (21%)	147 (8%)	68 (4%)	57 (3%)	10 (1%)	1748 (incl. 57 awaiting inspection)

'0' rated food businesses in the City

These businesses were rated '0' at 30 November 2015; some have been since been re-inspected - further information is given in the 'Details' column.

Premises	Details
Chilli Nachos (Tinga Foods Limited) , Retail Unit, 46 Moorgate, London EC2R 6EL	A revisit on 15 December found that a food hygiene consultant has been engaged and a food safety management system is being finalised for the business. This will need to be embedded properly before we can say whether any improvement has been sustained, but the signs are more encouraging than they were previously.
Continental Sandwich Bar , 19 Watling Street, London EC4M 9BR	A recent re-visit found the premises to have now improved. Were the Food Business Operator (FBO) to request a re-rating he would likely now receive a score of 4.
Kim's Vietnamese , 62 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1JU	Upon re-visit, the premises was found to have implemented some practices but cleaning still needed some attention. The premises would probably now be 'broadly compliant' (a 3 rating).

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	The next inspection is due before Christmas.
Nii Haw Sushi , 7 Ludgate Circus, London EC4M 7LF	This premises (and the other owned by the same FBO) has been revisited several times. Standards were very much improved but the FBO needs to prove they can sustain this.
Planet of the Grapes Ltd , Basement Unit 74-82 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4N 4SJ	A revisit on 14 December found the business has very much improved. Issues with the hot water supply have been resolved, the premises was generally very clean and there was no evidence of pests (after long standing problems). Most supporting paperwork is now complete and available - were the Food Business Operator (FBO) to request a re-rating they would likely be rated a 4 on this basis.
Pull'd , 61 Cannon Street, London EC4N 5AA	Several interventions have been completed since the inspection including some sampling work. Systems have improved with the manager taking a keen interest, other key staff less so. The next full inspection is due in April 2016.
The Creed Lane Kitchen , 1 Creed Lane, London EC4V 5BR	An initially poor performing business with no hot water. Improvements have been made but the manager has now left and these may not be sustained. The next full inspection is due in February.
Tsuru , Retail Unit, Aldermay House, 15 Queen Street, London EC4N 1TX	Formal action is being considered after this business has failed to sustain improvement after a number of inspections.
Wood Street Bar and Restaurant , 53 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5EJ	This premises was implicated in an outbreak in a pub in Hackney for which our business was providing catering (an element of the business that had been put in place since our previous inspection). Ultimately there was no evidence to provide a definitive connection between our business and the illness associated with the other venue. We had no confidence in their food safety management; catering operations were briefly suspended and a food safety consultant engaged. A number of follow up visits have been made.
XLNT (Results) Ltd , 2 nd Floor Gantry, Temple Of Mithras (Ancient Temple Court), 11 Queen Victoria Street, London	This is a construction site canteen which was initially very poorly managed. The premises has been visited on a number of occasions since the inspection, some improvements have been made but the businesses remains at best 'broadly compliant' (a 3 rating).

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Health & Safety	2014-15 Annual Total	2015-16 Target (where applicable)	2015-16 Period 2 Total (Year to date totals are shown in brackets)
Programmed Cooling Tower inspections	69	75	18 (40)
Other H&S Inspections	38	N/A	19 (56)
H&S Project visits	27	N/A	5 (10)
Accident and dangerous occurrences notifications	238	N/A	98 (164)
Complaints & service requests received	160	N/A	47 (111)
Notices	0	N/A	0 (0)
Prosecutions	1	N/A	1 (1)

Period 2 – Health & Safety Team Highlights

- **Prosecution of Blades (London) Ltd** under the Health & Safety at Work Etc. Act 1974 in connection with a window cleaning fatality in 2012 at Laurence Pountney Hill was successful. The company was fined £45,000 plus £7,500 towards costs.
- The team gave three briefings to **City facilities managers** and contractors concerning legal compliance of managing falls from height risks in association with window cleaning and maintenance of external building structures. All three briefings were very well received.
- As their Primary Authority Partner, officers have carried out detailed (funded) site audits of **Virgin Active** premises across the country. This is part of a programme of providing advice on management system compliance with legal requirements.
- Written and teleconference discussions and advice has been given to USA CDC (Federal Government Agency: Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Georgia) and New York City authorities on **Legionella control** arrangements in the UK.
- The **London Healthy Workplace Charter** 'Excellence' level was awarded to Lloyds of London with the support of the Health & Safety Team.
- A new Primary Authority Partnership was signed with **Puregym**. High street retailer, **Monsoon**, has also enquired about the possibility of forming a partnership.
- Officers have provided training to Scottish Local Authority enforcement officers on inspection of cooling towers.

Period 2 – Pest Control Team Highlights

- Arrangements to transfer a Pest Control Officer post to Smithfield Market as part of the **Service Based Review** measures have been finalised.
- A temporary **Pest Control Officer** has been employed to cover the vacant post until 31 January 2016.
- An **independent audit** of the pest control programme at Smithfield Market concluded that the programme was appropriate and effective at keeping rodent activity minimised and under control.

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Trading Standards	2014-15 Annual Total	2015-16 Target (where applicable)	2015-16 Period 2 Total (Year to date totals are shown in brackets)
Inspections and visits	91	N/A	38 (47)
Complaints & service requests received	3332	N/A	1,087 (2,562)
Home Authority referrals	466	N/A	41 (68)
Acting as a responsible authority for Licensing Applications	84	N/A	55 (90)
Prosecutions	0	N/A	0 (2)

Period 2 – Trading Standards Highlights

- In September, a Trading Standards officer accompanied our Chairman, Wendy Mead OBE, to the **Cambridge Economic Crime Conference** to deliver a very well received workshop session on 'Operation Broadway'.
- Following the **conviction of Servcorp** for offences under the London Local Authorities Act in July 2015, they decided to appeal against the level of the sentence imposed at the Old Bailey. The Court decided to reduce the fine to £9000, from the original £21,000, in order to bring it more into line with the sentence imposed in the other successful prosecution by CoL Trading Standards against Regus.
- Two '**Operation Broadway**' training sessions were supported by officers from Trading Standards. The aim of the sessions was to explain to partner agencies across London the aims, objectives and successes of the project which is being run in conjunction with CoL Police. Each highly successful session attracted more than 50 delegates and received positive feedback.
- Following a robust interview and selection process, a suitable candidate for the **vacant TSO position** was offered and has accepted the post. The successful candidate has been working with us as a contractor for the past 9 months and we are delighted to welcome her as a permanent member of the team from January 2016.

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Pollution	2014-15 Annual Total	2015-16 Target (where applicable)	Period 2 2015-2016 results			
			Total	% Noise complaints resolved	Notices served	Prosecutions
			(Year to date totals are shown in brackets)			
Complaint investigations, noise	971	N/A	342 (635)	94.7%	2 EPA S80* (5)	0 (0)
Complaint investigations, other	68	N/A	23 (112)	N/A	0 (0)	0 (0)
Licensing, Planning and Construction Works applications assessed	1286	N/A	466 (1,046)	N/A	0 (3)	N/A
No. of variations (to construction working hours) notices issued	719	N/A	330 (771)	N/A	4 3 COPA S61 1 COPA S60** (4)	N/A

* EPA: Environmental Protection Act 1990. S80: Summary proceedings for statutory nuisances.

** COPA: Control of Pollution Act 1974. S60: Control of noise on construction sites. S61: Prior consent for work on construction sites.

Period 2 – Pollution Team Highlights

- Obtained funding to look at the feasibility of establishing a **low emission neighbourhood** in the City and appointed a consultant to deliver the work.
- Submitted a number of bids for funding from the next round of **Mayor's Air Quality Fund**:
 - To investigate the feasibility and acceptability of different options to reduce emissions from diesel across the Square Mile;
 - To coordinate and roll out Cleaner Air Action Days across central London to deal with unnecessary vehicle engine idling; and
 - To investigate the potential impact on air quality in central London of using standby diesel generators for 'short term operating reserve' in times of peak electricity demand, rather than just in emergency situations and for testing.
- In addition to the above:
 - The City Corporation is part of a joint application to take action to deal with emissions from non-road mobile machinery on construction sites.
 - The City Corporation is part of a joint application with Cheapside Business Alliance to reduce emissions of air pollutants in the zone.
- Ruth Calderwood, Environmental Policy Officer, appeared in front of MPs to give evidence on air quality at a parliamentary POST (**Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology**) event.
- Ruth also appeared on the **BBC One Show** promoting the team's work around engaging with drivers to turn engines off when parked.
- Responded to Defra's consultation on their draft Air Quality Plan and Ruth Calderwood delivered a presentation to IAQM (**Institute of Air Quality Management**) on that response.
- Responded to the **Mayor of London** on his plans for London Local Air Quality Management.
- Met with the **Defra Air Quality Minister** and CityAir business air quality champions for a round table discussion on the work they have been doing.

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- The team is supporting a piece of **air quality research** by the independent think tank, Policy Exchange. The work will consider a range of potential policy options to address London's air quality problem. Part 1 of the report was published in November.
- Began to train residents to help deal with unnecessary **engine idling** in the City.
- **CityAir App** downloads stand at over 12500.
- Commenced an extensive air quality monitoring programme around **Bank Junction**.
- Installed **NOx (oxides of nitrogen) analysers** in Liverpool Street and Smithfield.
- Commenced enforcement of new emission control requirements for **non-road mobile machinery** on construction sites.
- Worked with corporate taxi provider Addison Lee to use **petrol hybrid vehicles** as default for City employees, with a requirement that drivers switch the engines to electric mode if possible when driving in sensitive areas of the City.
- The **Contaminated Land Strategy** 2015–2020 has been approved by your committee and implementation of the action plan begun.
- The Pollution Team has worked with City Procurement to embed noise and air quality into the new **draft Procurement Strategy**.
- Construction of the **Cycle Super Highway** North/South and East/West has progressed. The team has been working closely with the contractors and TfL to minimise environmental impacts.

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Animal Health & Welfare	2014-15 Annual total	2015-16 Target (where applicable)	Period 2 2015-2016 results			
			Total	Warning letters	Notices served	Prosecutions
			(Year to date totals are shown in brackets)			
Animal Reception Centre						
Throughput of animals (no. of consignments)	21,762	N/A	7,551 (15,615)	20 (31)	0 (0)	11 (14)
Animal Health						
Inspections carried out*	368	N/A	151 (230)	0 (2)	16 (22)	0 (0)
*Due to the legislation, most of the Animal Health licensing inspections are carried out at the end of the calendar year and figures will, therefore, fluctuate across quarters.						

Period 2 - Animal Health Highlights

- The number of **illegal puppies** picked up in London continued to be high.
- Following recent legislative changes, several warrants have been obtained through the City Magistrates court to enable **investigative action** into illegal puppies to be taken. Feedback of the issues surrounding the illegal importation of puppies is continuously fed back to government.
- Several meetings have taken place with government regarding **the 'puppy issue'**, which is also receiving scrutiny in other EU member states.
- The team and Kent County Council Trading Standards Department won an **award from the RSPCA** for a joint operation at Coquelles in France, aimed at disrupting the puppy trade.

Period 2 – HARC Highlights

- **Egypt Air** was fined £1,500, plus £770 costs, £120 victim surcharge and £150 court charge, for transporting a dog that died in transit after being shipped in a very small box.
- **United Airlines (UA)** was fined £3,000 plus costs for a dog transported in a small box. (UA regularly appears in court). HARC Officers are meeting with representatives from the US Department of Agriculture in late January/early February to discuss the issues encountered with US carriers and UA in particular. Attempts were made to have a face to face meeting with UA representatives prior to the Christmas break, but arrangements were then cancelled by UA. This will be followed up robustly.
- A communication stream has been set up between recognised **assistance dog groups**, the HARC and the Civil Aviation Authority.
- The crating of a consignment of **goats** had to be urgently improved prior to their export, as the 'billy goats' had broken into the 'nanny goats' section!
- Two consignments of **rhinoceros** were given special permission by Defra to transit through Heathrow and checks were made on the consignments to ensure they complied with the derogations conditions.
- A consignment of **large sharks** was imported into Heathrow in very high tech shipping containers which was facilitated by HARC and its staff.

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Port Health	2014-15 Annual total	2015-16 target (where applicable)	Period 2 2015-2016 results			
			Total	Cautions	Notices served	Prosecutions
			(Year to date totals are shown in brackets)			
Food Safety inspections and revisits	54	N/A	3 (7)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Ship Sanitation Inspections and Routine Boarding of Vessels	92	N/A	48* (77)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
*28 Ship Sanitation Inspections and 20 Routine Boardings.						
Imported food Not of Animal Origin - document checks	12,768	N/A	6,065 (10,791)	0 (0)	55 (140)	0 (0)
Imported food Not of Animal Origin - physical checks	1,866	N/A	802 (1,792)	0 (0)	N/A	0 (0)
Number of samples taken	327	N/A	99 (217)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Products of Animal Origin Consignments – document checks	10,226	N/A	3,044 (6,357)	0 (0)	16 (25)	0 (0)
Products of Animal Origin Consignments – physical checks	3,959	N/A	1,178 (2,485)	0 (0)	5 (11)	0 (0)
Number of samples taken	259	N/A	65 (150)	N/A	6 (25)	N/A

Period 2 – Port Health Highlights

- The London Port Health Authority **successfully defended an appeal** against a rejection notice issued for a consignment of pesticide contaminated Nigerian Beans that arrived at the Port of London Gateway. Unusually the grounds of appeal were not against the decision to issue the rejection notice but the options offered by the notice. This is the first time such an appeal has been lodged against the Authority. The appeal was dismissed, the rejection notice was upheld and we were awarded full costs. It is a landmark decision the outcome of which is of interest not just to the London Port Health Authority but all Port Health Authorities.
- The number of vessels using **London Gateway**, and the work associated with them, continues to increase; the number of vessels each week has increased by just over 40% based on the same time last year.
- During Period 2 we have also seen a number of **large vessels diverted to London Gateway** from other UK ports and this has had an impact on the volume of work the service has had to undertake.