



DIRECTOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES REPORT

2 February 2010

DSDS2 NEW SOUTH WALES FOOD AUTHORITY - SIX MONTHLY REPORT
FILE: 196 JGR {Folio No. *}

SUMMARY:

Reporting on the NSW Food Authority Mandatory Food Surveillance Report 1 January 2009 to 30 June 2009.

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Background

In accordance with section 113 of the NSW Food Act 2003, councils are required to report to the NSW Food Authority on food surveillance inspections on a 6 monthly basis. Collectively the state's 152 councils undertook 25,645 inspections during the 6 month period ending 30 June 2009.

The following table provides a summary of activities reported by local Councils for the reporting period 1 January 2009 to 30 June 2009 compared to the result in Kempsey Shire.

NSW LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROFILE COLLECTIVE RESULTS		KEMPSEY SHIRE COUNCIL RESULTS	NSW AVERAGE
Food business profile			
Number of high risk food business (P1 & P2)	26,399	168	173
Number of medium risk food business (P3)	9,634	14	63
Number of low risk food businesses (P4)	3,923	2	25
Total number of food businesses	39,956	184	262
Regulation services profile			
No. of full time equivalent (FTE) authorised officers engaged in food regulatory work	169	0.5	1.1 persons
No. of enforcement agencies using private contractors	45	0	29%
No. of enforcement agencies sharing resources	24	0	15%
Regulation inspection profile (excluding low risk businesses)			
Total number of primary inspection completed	25,645	176	168
Percentage of primary inspection complying with all critical Food handling practices (CFHP)		94%	69%
Of those non-compliant with all CFHP percentage subsequently complying after follow up		80%	70%
Food complaint profile			
Total number of complaints received	2,186	6	14
Total number of complaints investigated	2,163	6	14

Complaint types (%)			
Hygiene and handling		25%	44%
Foreign matter		-	14%
Food quality including deterioration		25%	19%
Labelling and advertising		-	3%
Other		50%	20%
Value-added services			
No. of enforcement agencies providing technical advice to food business	146	Pamphlets and brochures	96%
No. of enforcement agencies providing information to food business	139	Technical advice provided on request	91%
No. of enforcement agencies organising/facilitating food handler training	79	Nil	52%
No. of enforcement agencies providing other services	48	Nil	31%

Retail food inspection results statewide continues to improve with 69% of all premises satisfactory at the primary inspection, up from 60% for the previous six months.

The NSW Food Authority has revised the required food surveillance reporting to every twelve (12) months, the current agreement is every six (6) months. The next reporting period will be 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010.

The current level of compliance of critical food handling practices within Kempsey Shire's premises is 94% which compared more than favourably to the State average of 69%.

Kempsey Shire's Involvement in NSW Food Authority Partnership

Regional Food Groups

Statewide there are fifteen Regional Food Groups comprised of council Environmental Health Officers which meet 3 times per year. Kempsey is represented on the Mid North Coast State Liaison Group.

Meetings involve discussions of state and local issues. These meeting also involve training sessions which has included: -

1. Food borne illness case study;
2. Allergy awareness; and
3. Consistent use of enforcement tools.

State Liaison Group

Three State Liaison Group meetings are held each calendar year at the NSW Food Authority Offices in Sydney. These are attended by representatives of the Regional Food Groups. Kempsey Council's Environmental Health Officer represented the Mid North Coast Regional Group at these meetings with the following matters of state significance discussed: -

1. Reporting requirements to state by local governments;
2. Required training for Regional Food Groups; and
3. Develop standard inspection report forms for councils.

RECOMMENDATION IMPLICATIONS:

- *Environmental*

Nil

- *Social*

Nil

- *Economic (Financial)*

Nil

- *Policy or Statutory*

Nil

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be noted.

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R B Pitt
DIRECTOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES