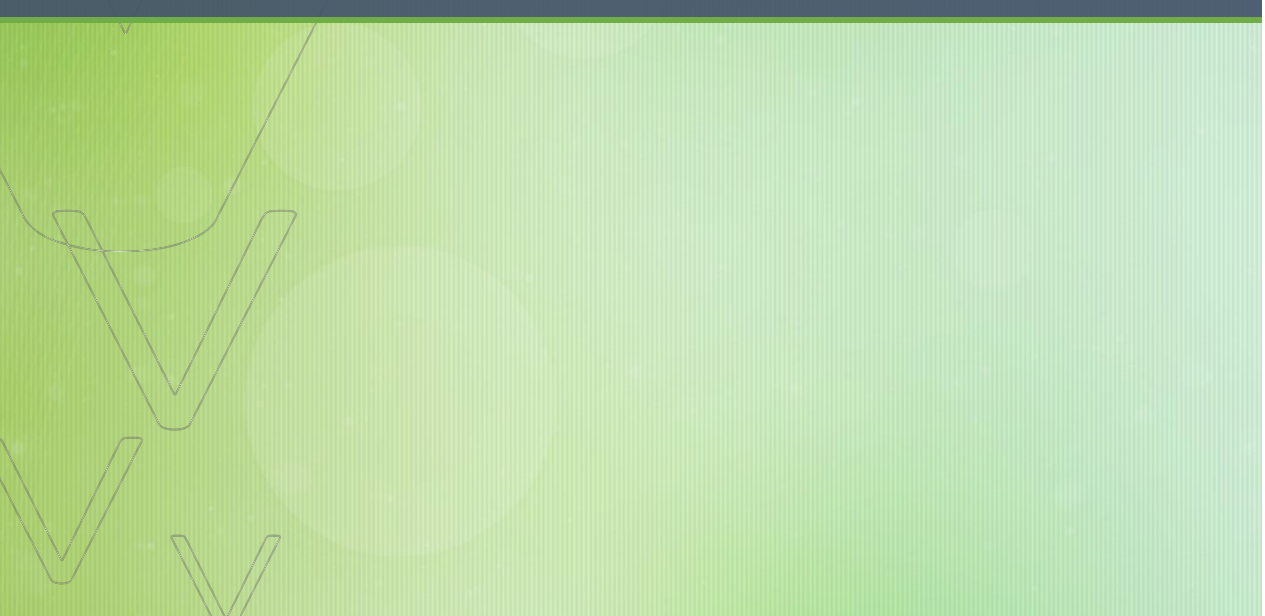


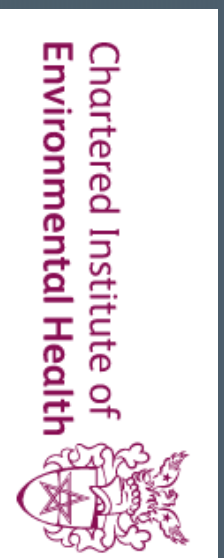
IOSH, 9 June 2021

Regulating During the Pandemic - Local Authority Perspective



GB LA / HSE co-regulatory partnership

- Engagement with LA stakeholder bodies
HELA, PF, PHASS, SOCOEH, REHIS, LGA, WLGA, CIEH, DPPW, SOLACE
- Local level engagement with ELO's
- LA representatives on sector working groups



HELA

- Strategic oversight of the co-regulatory relationship between HSE and Local Authorities
- HSE/ LA Co-Chaired
- Members from LGA, HSE, LA's, BEIS, REHIS and CIEH
- (Usually) Meets twice per year (spring and autumn)

Practitioner's Forum

- LA regulator input to operational policy and delivery matters
- Chaired by LA lead representative
- Members from LA liaison groups across England Scotland and Wales, REHIS and CIEH
- Meet twice per year after HELA meeting has taken place



Pandemic Regulatory Response

- Covid19 response was & still is primarily a Public Health one
- It does impact workplaces, so also has H&S considerations
- Public Health is a devolved matter
- Bodies involved include: NHS Boards; Local Authorities; Central Government; Devolved Administrations and various agencies
- Local Authorities and Police empowered under various Covid legislation

Core Challenges

- The changes have been plentiful, and include changes to:
 - Restrictions
 - Legislation
 - Guidance

They can also vary between the GB Nations

- This can lead to uncertainty and confusion, common questions:
 - What am I allowed to do?
 - What activities are permitted? And when/where?
 - Where can I get advice?

Core Challenges

- Local Authorities H&S regulatory activities usually sit within the LA Environmental Health Team.
- During the Pandemic many EH staff were redeployed in different roles such as Contact Tracing (Test & Protect / Track & Trace) or were utilised to support wider LA response work
- Competing demands - ongoing from the Pandemic and from recovery process as sectors open up



Reflections on my own experiences during the Pandemic

- Work in a Local Authority Environmental Health Team
- We went almost entirely virtual from March 2020 Lockdown
- Scottish Public Health Response lead via Scottish Government
- LAs & NHS Boards working together for contacting tracing, clusters & outbreaks

Environmental Health & Trading Standards Covid19 Panel

- Set up includes full panel, sub-panels, related groups and representation on various Scottish Government C19 working groups and those in our established networks (including PHASS & HASCOG for H&S)
- Looks at legislation, guidance etc. and liaises with partners including for example: Scottish Government, Public Health Scotland, Health & Safety Executive, Food Standards Scotland, Care Inspectorate and Police Scotland
- Provides guidance to help ensure consistency across Scotland's 32 Local Authorities

Local Authority Covid Intervention Stats

Total 26/03/2020-14/05/2021 (Scotland)	
Advice requests from business	18868
Enquiries/complaints about businesses	20469
Advice issued following above	2803
Complaint substantiated	707
Warnings	122
Prohibition notices	4
Interventions to businesses	74696
Revisits	13559
Warnings issued Inc FPNs	1346
Prohibition notices	63
Directions issued	10
Warnings - to cease trading	31
Warnings - social distancing staff	26
Warnings - social distancing customers	79
Social media activity	3426

Questions?

