



RHONDDA CYNON TAF

RECORD OF DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION

SUBJECT: Trading Standards Framework Service Delivery Plan 2012-13

PURPOSE OF ATTACHED REPORT:

To seek approval of the Trading Standards Framework Service Delivery Plan for 2012-13

DELEGATED DECISION (Date):

**To approve the Trading Standards Framework Service Delivery Plan for 2012-13
(Appendix 1 of the report)**

D.G. Jones

Chief Officer Signature

GEORGE JONES

Print Name

4/7/2012

Date

The decision is taken in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government Act, 2000 (Executive Functions) and in the terms set out in Section 5 of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution

Kammou

CONSULTEE CABINET MEMBER SIGNATURE

4/7/2012

DATE

P. Jones

OFFICER CONSULTEE SIGNATURE

4/7/2012

DATE

Directorate:	Public Health & Protection, Environmental Services Group
Contact Name:	David Jones Tony O'Leary
Designation:	Head of Community Protection Trading Standards Manager
Telephone Numbers:	01443 425512 01443 425337

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**MUNICIPAL YEAR 2012/13
REPORT TO ACCOMPANY DECISION OF
GROUP DIRECTOR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

Part 1 (Non-Confidential)

NATIONAL PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN 2012-13

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval for the Trading Standards Framework Service Delivery Plan for 2012-13.
- 1.2 In accordance with the Council's scheme of delegation this report has been prepared to accompany the decision of the Group Director Environmental Services as described below.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

- 2.1 Approval is given to the Trading Standards Framework Service Delivery Plan for 2012-13.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval of the Trading Standards Framework Service Delivery Plan document for 2012-13, which has been required by the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills and its predecessor departments to be produced by the Authority on an annual basis,
- 3.2 The Government recognises that Trading Standards services play a key role in our communities through helping consumers, tackling unfair and unsafe trade practices, and providing support for business. They consider it crucial, both to the local economy and the national competitive framework, that Trading Standards provide a high quality, consistent service. As a result of changes made in 2012, the work of local Trading Standards services in relation to national and regional issues is being coordinated by the National Trading Standards Board, leading to more responsibility and onus for our Trading Standards team to deal with these types of issues.

- 3.3 The National Performance Framework first came into effect in 2002 when it was introduced by the Department of Trade and Industry, the predecessor of the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills. It introduced performance standards for Trading Standards. It is aimed at ensuring that Trading Standards services throughout the UK are able to develop a modern service working towards national and local priorities in a coherent way.
- 3.4 The National Performance Framework is intended for all Trading Standards authorities in England, Scotland and Wales. The annual cycle of planning and reporting information, which was introduced by the framework, is intended to be helpful to those delivering the service, to users and to stakeholders. The Department of Business, Innovation and Skills continues to use their associated annual information returns, to gain better information about service provision, and this is used to inform the future development of the service.
- 3.5 Every Trading Standards service is required to draw up a Service Delivery Plan outlining provisions in relation to key areas detailed in the Standard. The National Performance Framework has three key elements: the Service Delivery Plan, the Standard, and the Information Return. The Service Delivery Plan falls into two parts.
- 3.6 Part One covers the Community and Corporate Objectives of the Authority and identifies any planned Trading Standards work developed from these objectives, as well as an assessment of the needs of consumers and businesses within the Authority.
- 3.7 Part Two gives details of the provisions by the Service to meet national and local priorities as detailed in the Standard for:
- Informed Confident Consumers
 - Informed Successful Business
 - Enforcement of a Fair and Safe Trading Environment
 - Provision of an Efficient, Effective and Improving Trading Standards Service
- 3.8 Although the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills no longer requires that they should be provided with a copy of each local authority's plan, the Service Delivery Plan still forms part of the basis on which local authorities are monitored on their provision of a Trading Standards service. Each Trading Standards service in Wales is required to provide a copy of their plan to the Wales Regional Trading Standards Co-ordinator for the purposes of uniformity of enforcement and service provision and the encouragement of best practice.
- 3.9 This Plan updates last year's plan and demonstrates how the Trading Standards Service is progressing in line with the requirements of the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills and how it is contributing to the Community Strategy 2010-20 as well as other Council and Welsh Government plans.

